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## Qadhafi: W. Sahara is Arab problem.

RABAT (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has said the Western Sahara conflict is an Arab problem and should be solved in an Arab framework, the Moroccan news agency MAP reported Friday. In a dispatch from Benghazi, the agency quoted Col. Qadhafi as saying the Western Sahara issue had divided Africa and threatened to break up the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). Col. Qadhafi appeared to be proposing that Arabs should deal with the Sahara issue instead of allowing it to continue to divide the OAU which has been deadlocked over the issue since the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) was admitted into the pan-African group in 1982. The Libyan leader was quoted as telling a meeting of the permanent ministerial commission for Arab-African co-operation: "We should count on Arab efficacy to find a solution to the Sahara problem which is a purely Arab problem."

## IOC complains about TV coverage

LOS ANGELES (R) — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has complained ABC-TV, which is providing U.S. coverage of the Olympic Games, is concentrating too much on American athletes to the detriment of foreign competitors, a Los Angeles Times official said Friday. The committee said failure to give more coverage to foreign athletes could reduce the international flavour of the games, the official said. The committee was said to have asked the president of the Los Angeles Olympic Organising Committee, Peter Ueberroth, to discuss with ABC-TV officials the question of providing a more general focus of the games. Some foreign athletes and their coaches have said they are not receiving sufficient attention on U.S. television. A Canadian gymnast said American viewers saw comparatively little of the Romanian gymnasts who pushed the Americans into second place in the women's team competition. See Olympic stories on page 6

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## 2 Beirut hostages freed

BEIRUT (R) — The foreign press attaché of former Lebanese President Camille Chamoun's National Liberal Party (NLP) was freed Friday after being kidnapped and held for eight days by a west Beirut militia. Rodolphe Paulkevitch said he thought his abductors belonged to the "Hizbollah," a Shi'ite Muslim fundamentalist group, because the cell he was detained, contained Hizbollah literature and posters of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

## One killed in Tripoli sniping

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — A civilian was killed and two others were wounded in the northern port of Tripoli Friday by sniper fire between the pro-Syrian Arab Democratic Party and the "Popular Resistance," a splinter group of the Sunni fundamentalist "Islamic Unification Movement," security sources reported.

## Court allows bail for 2 Israelis

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli appeals court upheld a district court order on Friday to release on bail two army officers accused of assisting a Jewish terror underground in the occupied West Bank. Israel Radio reported. Maj. Aharon Leviatan and Capt. Aharon Leviatan of the West Bank occupation government were arrested in May and have been standing trial since June on charges that include attempted murder. Maj. Leviatan is accused of supplying intelligence information to Jewish terrorists for assassination attempts on three Palestinian mayors. The captain is charged with failing to warn a police demolition expert about a bomb placed in the garage of former Al Bireh Mayor Ibrahim Tawil on June 2, 1980.

## Klibi supports Soviet plan

TUNIS (R) — Arab League Secretary-General Chadi Klibi has expressed support for last Sunday's Soviet call for a Middle East conference under United Nations auspices. In a statement Thursday, Mr. Klibi said the Soviet proposal fitted in with an Arab peace plan of September 1982 providing for an independent Palestinian state on land occupied by Israel in 1967. Mr. Klibi said the Arabs were convinced of the need for the superpowers to take part in Middle East peace moves and believed that the participation of the members of the U.N. Security Council would also be beneficial.

## Upper Volta changes name

OUAGADOUGOU (R) — A new flag fluttered on public buildings of the Upper Volta capital Friday as the country prepared to change its name in ceremonies marking the first anniversary of its leftist military revolution. Upper Volta, a name inherited from French colonial days, will become Bourkina Faso which means "the country of honest men" in the more language of the dominant mossi tribal group, according to informed sources.

## Peres tipped as favourite to form Israeli coalition

TEL AVIV (R) — Labour Party leader Shimon Peres Friday emerged as favourite to be Israel's next prime minister after President Chaim Herzog completed consultations on who should be asked to form the next government.

Mr. Herzog has held talks over the past three days with 14 political parties to try to break the deadlock caused by last week's inconclusive general election.

Labour has 44 of parliament's 120 seats and the Likud bloc, which led the outgoing government, won 41, with the rest shared among a dozen small parties.

Six of the small factions appeared to have expressed a preference for Mr. Peres over Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud leader.

Mr. Peres appeared to have the support of 60 members of parliament and Mr. Shamir could count on 54.

Five parliamentarians expressed no preference and Mr. Herzog refused to consult Rabbi Meir Kahane, head of the extremist Kach Party who was elected for the first time, because of his campaign to expel all Arabs from Israel and the occupied territories.

The president, expected to announce his choice within a few days, has urged the two main parties to form a coalition government to halt Israel's economic decline.

Mr. Peres and Mr. Shamir have already met twice to discuss the possibility of forming a coalition and have postponed further talks until after Mr. Herzog's announcement.

Political analysts were sceptical whether the two leaders could overcome important policy differences over the role of Israeli troops in Lebanon and the Jewish settlement programme in the occupied Arab territories.

Labour wants to withdraw the army from Lebanon and halt the settlements.

Mr. Peres Friday won the support of former Likud Finance Minister Yigael Harel and the one-seat Ometz party which favours austerity measures to repair the economy, crippled by high inflation.

Likud politician, ex-Defence Minister Ezer Weizman, offered the support of the three seats held by his centrist Yahad party for a grand coalition headed by Mr. Peres.

Mr. Weizman, whose Yahad party holds a pivotal role in Israel's political deadlock, told President Herzog Thursday he favoured a coalition led by Mr. Peres.

Mr. Weizman, who controls three crucial parliamentary seats, told reporters the economy was in a critical state because the Likud government had pursued "mistaken national goals."

This was an apparent reference to the Lebanon war and the Jewish settlements in occupied Arab lands.

During Mr. Herzog's consultations, the following parties expressed a preference for a coalition led by Mr. Peres: Labour (44 seats), Yahad (3), Ometz (1), the centrist Shinui (3), left-wing Citizens' Rights Movement (3) and two Arab-backed groups, the Progressive List for Peace (2) and Communists (4).

Support for a Shamir coalition was voiced by: Likud (41), the ultra-nationalist Tehiya (5) and three religious groups, Shas (4), Morasha (2) and Agudat Israel (2).

The National Religious Party (4) and the ethnic Tami party (1) gave no preference.

## Senior Soviet official in Beirut after Amman talks

BEIRUT (R) — Senior Soviet Foreign Ministry official Vladimir Polyakov arrived Friday on a three-day visit for talks with Lebanese leaders, airport sources said.

Shortly after arriving from Amman, Mr. Polyakov began talks with Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fouad Al Turk, ministry sources said.

During his visit Mr. Polyakov will discuss Moscow's fresh call for an international Middle East peace conference as well as the situation in Lebanon, the sources said.

The long-standing Soviet plan, rejected by the United States and Israel, envisages a conference of all parties in the Middle East conflict, including Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Polyakov is expected to meet Prime Minister Rashid Karame and other members of the national unity government, including Shi'ite leader Nabih Berri who visited Moscow two weeks ago.

Mr. Polyakov, head of the foreign ministry Middle East desk, is the first senior Soviet official to visit Beirut since Israel invaded Lebanon in 1982.

The Jordanian news agency, Petra, adds: During his visit to Amman, Mr. Polyakov met His Majesty King Hussein and Foreign Minister Taher Al-Masri, who officially welcomed the Soviet plan.

The aim of the proposals, Mr. Polyakov said in Amman, was to achieve a just and peaceful settlement based on total Israeli withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories in return for peace, and with the participation of all the parties concerned.

Mr. Polyakov discussed with Mr. Taher Al Masri and senior Jordanian officials means of bolstering and cementing mutual co-operation between the Soviet Union and Jordan.

He was seen off at Amman airport by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Hussein Hamami, Soviet charge d'affaires in Amman Mikhail Popov and senior officials.

## Five ships hit Red Sea mines

LONDON (AP) — At least five ships struck mines in the Red Sea and one was severely damaged, Lloyds intelligence department said Friday, but there was no indication who planted the explosives off the coast of North Yemen.

The explosions occurred Thursday, Lloyds said.

In Sana'a, the North Yemeni government launched a survey of its territorial waters to investigate what it called "aggressive provocations aimed primarily at destabilising security and stability."

The North Yemeni spokesman described the mine-laying as "criminal," but did not suggest who was responsible.

In London, analysts said they were had no idea who was planting mines close to the strategically important waterway of the Red Sea. The narrow waterway is the only sea route to the Suez Canal.

Thursday's hits on vessels brought to at least nine the number of ships which have struck mines in the southern part of the Red Sea in the past week, said Lloyds spokesman Roger Lowes.

Mr. Lowes told the AP the captain of a Dutch cargo vessel, the 1,579-ton Joint Frost, radioed Lloyds agents Friday that he was trapped in a minefield in the Red Sea off the North Yemeni port of Hodeidah.

The captain reported a total of five or six ships had struck mines and said he was "holding his vessel, not daring to proceed."

Lloyds had no word Friday evening whether the Joint Frost has managed to sail out of the area. One unidentified vessel, first reported sunk, was later said to be badly damaged, Mr. Lowes said. The three identified ships hit

Thursday were the 6,956-ton Greek-registered Kiri Coral, the Turkish-registered Morgul and the East German-registered Georg Schumann.

Lloyds intelligence department, which monitors shipping movements worldwide, said it had no reports of deaths or injuries to crewmen.

The Kiri Coral, rocked by an explosion in the engine room as it sailed near the North Yemen coast with a cargo of sheet metal, limped Friday toward the North Yemen port of Al Mahka. In the Greek capital, Athens, officials said the ship's 27-member crew escaped injury.

The East German news agency, ADN, was quoted by the Middle East news agency in Egypt as saying the Georg Schumann had sought refuge on the Saudi Arabian coast.

North Yemeni officials said the captain of the Turkish vessel reported a mine exploded in front of his ship causing only "negligible" damage.

Earlier Friday, Egyptian government sources in Cairo said the Egyptian navy has launched a mine-sweeping operation in the Gulf of Suez, the northern branch of the Red Sea, at least 2,200 kilometres from Hodeidah.

The Egyptian move followed a series of mine explosions in the Gulf of Suez last weekend. A U.S. embassy source in Cairo said a 15-member team of American mine warfare experts had arrived in the Egyptian capital to help investigate the explosions.

Egyptian navy searches Suez for mines, page 2

## Gunboats open fire on Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Two unidentified gunboats, believed to be Israeli, opened fire at a Lebanese army position near a beach in mainly Muslim west Beirut Friday, sources quoted by various news agencies said.

The gunboats approached within three kilometres of the shore and opened up with heavy machine guns at an army checkpoint in the seaside neighbourhood of Ramlet Al Baida, the sources said.

Army units stationed nearby returned fire with heavy machine guns and a light tank cannon, they added. No hits were reported in either direction.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said the boats withdrew immediately after the clash but remained visible for about 30 minutes before they headed off to the southwest.

Beirut Radio said the army fired at two Israeli gunboats that tried to approach the coast, "forcing them to pull away." But an Israeli army spokesman in Tel Aviv said, "We don't have any information whatsoever on this."

A Lebanese soldier at the coastal position in Ramlet Al Baida said the army fired several rounds at the gunboats in the sea and that the two returned fire with machine guns.

He said the exchange lasted 15 minutes, but added that he could not determine the identity of the boats.

Residents of Ramlet Al Baida said armoured personnel carriers and tanks were brought to the coastal position in the early afternoon and opened up at two boats sailing away off the coast.

## Cabinet approves U.K.-based bank

AMMAN (J.T.) — The cabinet has given the go-ahead for the establishment of a financial company in London in which the government, along with 16 commercial banks and Jordanian institutions, will hold shares.

The decision, taken Wednesday evening, said that the company will have an overall capital of £20 million, of which £10 million will be paid in the first stage.

Finance Minister Hanna Odeh said that this decision was taken in view of the great developments

which have occurred in Jordanian banking operations and also to cope with the expansion of the Jordanian banking business in foreign financial markets.

The idea for establishing this financial establishment in London was contemplated three months ago. It was studied in detail by a ministerial committee which introduced basic changes in the provisions of its constitution. These changes were related to the manner in which the company's capital could be invested and the margin

that could be allocated for loans to business companies.

According to the Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper, the Finance Ministry will act for the Central Bank as a major shareholder in the new bank in addition to the Housing Bank and 15 other Jordanian financial institutions and commercial banks. An economic analyst was quoted as saying that the new company will act as a liaison between British and Jordanian banks and will also act as Jordan's financial arm abroad.

## Israeli helicopter attack damages UNRWA school in Nahr Al Bared

NAHR AL BARED, Lebanon (R) — United Nations officials Thursday inspected damage to a school and other buildings in this Palestinian refugee camp attacked by Israeli helicopters and gunboats Wednesday.

Bill Lee, a Vienna-based spokesman for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) said: "There is significant damage, but it can be repaired."

Reuters correspondents at the site saw damage from Israeli rocket fire on the edge of the camp, which houses some 16,000 Palestinians, including dissident commando groups opposed to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The boys' school, run by UNRWA and UNESCO but closed for the summer holidays, was hit by several rockets which smashed walls, broke windows, pierced desks and blew a hole in a perimeter wall.

Yellow phosphorous smears streaked the walls where rockets had struck.

Further north on the coastal

site, a house used by Palestinian commandos of the Popular Struggle Front (PSF), led by Samir Goshah, was destroyed. Lying in the rubble was a backgammon board, camp beds and a book with a map of Palestine on the cover.

The commandos said the building had been used only for sleeping.

Three wounded

Earlier Thursday, Palestinian sources told Reuters three people were wounded in the Israeli helicopter and gunboat attack.

The commandos said the three Israeli helicopters which opened the attack took them by surprise by approaching the camp along a flight path used by Syrian and Lebanese military helicopters from Qlatai, a runway eight kilometres north.

They said the helicopters fired radar-guided missiles and dropped phosphorous bombs on the target area.

Israeli gunboats joined in later, shelling sporadically for about

four hours and drawing return fire from coastal batteries manned by Palestinian commandos and Syrian troops.

A Reuters correspondent inside the camp found the remains of a U.S.-made air-to-surface missile with an inscription in English saying anyone exporting the weapon would be liable to a fine of \$25,000 and five years in jail.

The helicopter attack was the first in Lebanon by the Israeli air force since its planes hit an alleged commando base off the northern port of Tripoli on June 27 and 28.

Egypt said Thursday the Israeli attack created further obstacles to the peace process in the Middle East.

Commenting on the attack, an Egyptian Foreign Ministry spokesman said:

"Cairo received reports of the attack with great grief... Egypt sees the continued attacks by the Israeli army against both the Lebanese and Palestinian people as creating more obstacles in the path of peace efforts in the Middle East."

## French media accuse Iran of complicity in hijack

PARIS (R) — The French government waited nervously Friday for the return from Tehran of the passengers of a hijacked air France Jet as newspapers accused the Iranian government of complicity in the affair.

The left-wing daily Liberation and several other papers said the hijackers obtained firearms only after their arrival in Tehran. Some said the hijack may have been staged by an Iranian faction keen to block an improvement in relations with the West.

Official sources said the government would not comment on the allegations of Iranian complicity with the hijackers until the passengers and crew were safely back in Paris and experts had analysed what happened.

But they said the government's crisis centre at the Ministry of External Relations was still in operation.

The Boeing 737, hijacked on a flight from Frankfurt to Paris on Tuesday by three unidentified gunmen, was flown to Tehran after stops in Geneva, Beirut and Larnaca, Cyprus.

The hijack ended Thursday when the gunmen evacuated the aircraft and blew up the cockpit (See story on page 2).

French Minister for European Affairs Roland Dumas, who chaired the crisis team in Paris, said the government had not negotiated with the hijackers on their demand for the release of five prisoners from French jails.

Though Mr. Dumas thanked West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and other foreign politicians for helping to resolve the affair, there was no thanks from Paris for the Iranian government.

Official sources said Algeria, Yugoslavia and U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar had also helped France in its efforts to rally world pressure on the Iranian government to end the hijack peacefully.

France's own relations with Iran are bad because of French arms supplies to Iraq and the presence in France of large numbers of Iranian exiles opposed to the Tehran regime of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

## PLO leaders seeking to improve ties with Syria

TUNIS (R) — Palestinian leader have agreed on new steps to try and improve relations with Syria as a way to heal the split within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), according to PLO officials here.

Khaled Al Hassan, spokesman for PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's Fatah commando group, said the PLO Executive Committee agreed at a meeting Tuesday to form a three-man team to make contact with the Syrians.

He told Reuters it would consist of two executive committee members, Ahmad Sidqi Dajani and Hamed Abu Sitta, as well as Khaled Al Fahoum, Damascus-based speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the PLO's parliament-in-exile.

The organisation's political spokesman, Farouk Kaddoumi, who visited Damascus last month for talks with President Hafez Al Assad, was expected to return there shortly, he said.

Mr. Arafat has been seeking to convene the PNC since the start of the year, but his efforts have been held up by objections from hard-

dline PLO factions and hostility from Damascus, which broke off relations with him in June last year.

A high-level meeting between representatives of Mr. Arafat's Fatah commando group and three other Palestinian groups was held in Algiers on Monday and Tuesday, but a communiqué issued Wednesday did not indicate any major progress on removing obstacles in the way of the PNC.

Present at the session were Khalil Al Wazir, Mr. Arafat's military deputy, George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and Nayef Hawatmeh, leader of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the communist said.

It was the first time that Mr. Habash and Mr. Hawatmeh have taken part in the reconciliation sessions, which have continued at deputy level for months.

The communiqué said the participants, studied ways to "protect the PLO by trying to return in Syrian-Palestinian relations to normal."

## Israeli closure of Najah University intensifies Palestinian national feelings

NABLUS, Occupied West Bank (AP) — Israeli soldiers blocked the gates of the occupied West Bank's largest Palestinian university Friday. Thick rolls of barbed wire were stretched along the top of a wall surrounding the hillside campus.

After two years of relative calm, the Israeli decision last week to close Al Najah university for four months is fanning goals of anti-Israeli sentiment in this Palestinian city of 80,000.

A statement released by the Israeli government press office said the university has been a "focus of hostile and inflammatory activity and a number of gatherings have been held there urging support of various terrorist organisations in armed struggle against Israel."

"The iron hand begins to be heavy," said former Mayor Basam Shaka'a, who lost both his legs in a June 1980 car bomb attack that Israeli authorities blamed on Jewish terrorists. "But you cannot give a military order to control my mind."

Israeli soldiers stood watch outside Mr. Shaka'a's home for more than three years after the explosion, questioning and demanding identification from everyone who visited him.

The soldiers left a month ago, but he said his telephone is still monitored.

"Israel wants to control us completely," said Mr. Shaka'a, leaning on the two canes he now uses. "They prevent us from meeting and they censor our publications. But the people will find a way to revolt."

Nablus is a predominantly Muslim city about 50 kilometres north of Jerusalem in territory Israel occupied in the 1967 war.

Sprawling through a valley ringed by four Jewish settlements built since the war, Nablus has been a centre of Palestinian nationalism. Many buildings are marked by black smears of paint used by residents to cover anti-Israeli slogans that appear overnight.

"I am miserable to paint over something I agree with, but what

can I do? We are afraid of the Israelis," said one resident who would not be identified for fear of repercussions.

Nablus was the only West Bank city that refused to be hooked up to Israel's water, electrical and telephone systems, preferring to remain independent. It has been the site of frequent grenade and stone attacks on Israeli occupation troops who patrol the streets.

"But there had been a... in the level of anti-Israeli activities," said Mohammad Shadid, a political science professor at the university of about 3,500 students.

"There was hope for a peace settlement," he said. "Now it doesn't seem possible."

"The exhibit was nothing more than a demonstration of Palestinian pride," he said. "The Israeli response indicates to students that moderation doesn't work here."

The exhibit confiscated by the Israeli occupation authorities was part of the school's "Palestine week." It included books on guer-

rilla warfare, instructions on making bombs, an axe, chains, knives and a plastic model of a semi-automatic Kalashnikov rifle.

"The model of the gun was a kid's toy," Mr. Shadid said. "And if they think the students will confront guns with knives, they are dreaming."

The occupation authorities said they had repeatedly warned university officials that the school was becoming a centre of nationalistic activity that eventually would provoke closure.

"We put on the display because it is our heritage," said a 21-year-old university student who asked that her name not be used for fear of reprisals.

"They didn't like it because they don't want the world to know we are dissatisfied."

"We are not free," she said. "But we are doing small things all the time to try to wear them away. We throw grenades and stones. They cannot stop us. Eventually we will take the land back from the occupiers."

## INSIDE

- Greek, Turkish Cypriots to meet U.N. chief, page 2
- Public Works Ministry awards contract to build new highway to Syrian border, page 3
- Vienna maintains Kreisky's Mideast tradition, page 4
- Migration changes Mideast map, page 5
- Egypt qualifies for last 8 in Olympic soccer, page 6
- Row intensifies over oil output, page 7
- 25 reported killed in Madras airport blast, page 8



# Egyptian Navy vessels scour Gulf of Suez

CAIRO (Agencies) — Egyptian Navy vessels equipped with mine-detecting devices are scouring the Gulf of Suez following mystery explosions which have hit a number of merchant ships, military sources.

The U.S. Navy has also sent a 15-man team of experts in mine-warfare to Cairo to help the investigation. A Defence Department spokesman said in Washington.

Spokesman Michael Burch said that while there had been reports from shipping companies of vessels being damaged, "we have no information there were actually mines."

Officials have said the "blasts could have been caused by drifting explosives from offshore oil exploration sites."

But a man claiming to speak for "the Jihad Organisation" telephoned news agencies in London two days ago and claimed his group had planted 190 mines in the Suez Gulf and Bab Al Mandeb, the strait linking the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, in an anti-West campaign.

The first of the mystery explosions was reported by a Soviet container vessel on July 10. The other incidents occurred in the past week.

Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali has asserted the Suez Canal is safe for navigation and 61 ships used the waterway Thursday, bringing in a record \$5 million for Egypt. The country earns nearly \$1 billion a year from transit tolls.

The Egyptian Middle East

News Agency (MENA) reported from Sana'a that a Turkish and a Greek ship were damaged by mines in North Yemeni territorial waters Thursday.

MENA quoted a North Yemeni official as saying the blasts were terrorist acts aimed at undermining the stability and security of Red Sea countries.

The agency said the Greek vessel Porti Callor sustained some damage when it was hit on a voyage from the Yemeni Red Sea Port of Al Hodeida to Al Mukha harbour near the Bab Al Mandeb which links the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean.

MENA also quoted the captain of the Turkish ship Norshan Ban as reporting an explosion near the ship as it sailed near North Yemen on its way from Algeria to Kuwait.

The North Yemeni radio said authorities there were watching with concern "these aggressive signs and practices which aim at undermining the safety and security of the international waters of the Red Sea."

The radio gave no clue as to who was to blame for planting the mines.

The East German News Agency ADN meanwhile reported that the East German ship Georg Schumann was seriously damaged Thursday when it was hit by a

mine during a voyage from the Egyptian Port of Assab to Port Sudan in the Red Sea.

ADN said none of the crew was injured.

## Ship reported sunk

Lloyds Shipping Intelligence Department reported five ships hit by mines and one sunk in the Red Sea quoting the captain of a Dutch vessel who said he is stranded in the middle of a minefield.

In addition, Lloyds Intelligence Department said three other vessels — one Greek, one Turkish and one East German — were hit by mines in the Red Sea on Thursday. It had an unconfirmed report that a Chinese-registered vessel was also hit.

There was no indication who was planting the mines close to the narrow southern entrance of the Red Sea, the only route for vessels using the Suez Canal.

Lloyds Intelligence Department spokesman Roger Lowes said the captain of the 1,579-ton Dutch registered cargo ship Joint Frost reported Friday morning that he was "mixed up in a minefield" in the Red Sea, off the North Yemen port of Al Hudaydah.

The captain (of the Joint Frost) reported that five or six vessels in its vicinity have been hit by mines and one of them was sunk, said Mr. Lowes.

He added that the Dutch Captain reported to the ship's agents in the area that "he is holding his vessel, not daring to proceed and waiting for instructions."



Daniel Equis (centre) a steward of the hijacked Air France airliner who managed to escape as the plane was being refuelled at Larnaca Airport in Cyprus

before flying to Tehran, is surrounded by an unidentified Air France official (left) and Cypriot security man (AP wirephoto)

## Hijackers of Air France surrender

TEHRAN (R) — The three hijackers of an Air France jet surrendered at Tehran Airport Thursday after releasing safely 45 remaining hostages before an explosion blew a hole in the fuselage of the Boeing 737.

The three young men, whose identities were not immediately released, seized the aircraft with 58 passengers and six crew on a flight from Frankfurt to Paris on Tuesday. The jet landed at Tehran early Wednesday after brief touch-downs at Geneva, Beirut and Larnaca on Cyprus.

The hijackers had threatened to blow up the plane and hostages unless the Paris government released from jail five people involved in an assassination attempt on former Iranian Prime Minister Shapur Bakhtiar in Paris in 1980.

They had also threatened to start killing one French hostage an hour until their demand was met, but all the passengers and crew were eventually freed unharmed.

The Iranian National News Agency IRNA later referred to the hijackers as "three Lebanese." It said the French Charge d'Affaires in Tehran, Jean Perrin, had thanked Iranian officials for their efforts in ending the ordeal.

Before the surrender, Iranian authorities released on behalf of the hijackers a statement in which they described themselves as members of "the Islamic Org-

anisation for the Liberation of Qods (Jerusalem)."

The statement attacked France for what it said was its treatment of Muslims and said the hijackers had decided to teach the French government a lesson.

The end to the hijacking came about an hour after the last deadline for blowing up the plane. The hijackers hustled their hostages some 200 metres away from the twin-engine jet and ordered them to lie down. Reporters at the scene said a blast scattered debris from the fuselage by the front door of the plane just behind the cockpit. They said the blast appeared to be a small one. The hijackers then surrendered to security forces at 6.10 p.m. (1440 GMT) with their hands held high in the air. Before the final release, a steward had escaped at Larnaca, while all women and children aboard had been released at Tehran.

American businessman John R. Scott told reporters afterwards there were scary moments, especially when one passenger was taken outside Thursday and the hijackers drew the window blinds.

He said two of the hijackers displayed Lebanese passports. Briton Jonathan Shingleton said it became frightening Thursday when the hijackers appeared with sub-machineguns, explosives and 45-calibre handguns.

Previously they just had some small explosives.

"This made a totally different ball game," he said. But he described the hijackers as humanitarian, putting blankets on sleeping passengers and passing round cigarettes and water.

Another Air France airliner was hijacked to Tehran a year ago after an Iran Air Jumbo jet had been commandeered to Paris.

An Air France stewardess released by the hijackers in Tehran told French Radio that the hijackers threatened passengers with a knife during the journey.

Lydie Baranton, who was among 13 women and a child released Wednesday, said the hijackers threatened to slit a passenger's throat each time the plane took off if the pilot did not follow their orders.

Ms. Baranton said the hijackers seemed to be Lebanese, but added that they made no statement of their political aims to the passengers.

An Air France spokesman Thursday gave the nationalities of the 13 women released Wednesday.

He said seven were French, including three airhostesses. Two Indian, one Brazilian, one British, one West German and one Mexican.

But the spokesman gave no details about a 10-year-old boy released with the women.

## Greek, Turkish Cypriots to meet U.N. chief

NICOSIA (R) — Greek and Turkish Cypriots meet the United Nations secretary general in Vienna on Monday for what U.N. sources here say may be a final attempt to prevent the permanent partition of the divided Mediterranean island.

A row broke out last week over the status of the two sides representatives, but officials describe the mood preceding the talks as "optimism mixed with suspicion."

The two communities have been at loggerheads since communal strife broke out in 1963, three years after independence and culminated in the Turkish Cypriots declaring independence last year, nine years after Turkey invaded and occupied the northern 37 per cent of the island.

Greek Cypriots will be represented by Foreign Ministry Director General Andreas Mavromatis, a veteran of inter-communal negotiations, and Turkish Cypriots by Necati Ertekin whose title as foreign minister of the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" is not recognised by the U.N.

Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar will confer separately with the representatives in an effort to restart substantive face-to-face talks, aimed at establishing a federal republic, which were

broken off in May last year. Mr. Perez de Cuellar said on arrival in Vienna he would "listen to views and present ideas" and hoped the two sides would produce something concrete.

He said earlier after briefing Security Council members in New York that he felt his hand was "much stronger than before" in the peace-making efforts conducted on the basis of a 1975 council mandate.

Greek Cypriot officials here are optimistic about the talks despite the row over status which resulted in Mr. Mavromatis replacing Foreign Minister George Iacovou as a community, rather than government, representative.

The Greek Cypriot-run government of President Spyros Kyprianou is internationally recognised except by Turkey and the Turkish Cypriot state proclaimed by Mr. Rauf Denktaş in defiance of U.N. resolutions.

A government spokesman said officials were optimistic because they felt Mr. Perez de Cuellar would not have called the meeting without strong assurances of support from the European Community (EC).

All political parties in Cyprus support the U.N. initiative though the minority Socialist Party, which reflects the views of the ruling Pasok Party in Greece, says they

are doomed to failure.

In Athens a source close to Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu echoed this by saying "nobody can be excessively optimistic." The source said Greece would wait to see if there was a change in Turkish attitudes, adding "I don't see any change so far."

The Athens government has made virtually no public comment on the forthcoming talks.

Greek officials do not believe either Ankara or Mr. Denktaş want the proposed federal solution in Cyprus. They point to a series of actions they say proves a Turkish desire to entrench partition in Cyprus.

They cite the independence move last year, an exchange of ambassadors between Ankara and North Nicosia in April and the reported settlement of parts of the deserted Greek city of Famagusta-Varosha by Turkish Cypriots.

Turkish Cypriot representative Mr. Ertekin told Reuters Thursday night that the prospects for progress under the U.N. initiative are "quite good."

"I feel the only available means of solving the Cyprus problem is direct talks and the secretary general and his good offices are probably the best way to do it," he said in an interview.

## Israeli economists appeal for urgent action

TEL AVIV (R) — As politicians tried to stitch together a coalition from a fragmented parliament, economists, bankers and newspaper Thursday sounded a chorus of gloom for the economy and appealed for urgent action.

Editorials warned that Israel's credit rating abroad was in danger and the country was facing its moment of truth after years of profligacy under right-wing Likud Party rule.

The two statistics that sowed the alarm were the July foreign reserves level and the vast sum of new money printed by the government.

The Bank of Israel said Wed-

nesday that reserves plunged by \$351 million — compared to a \$49 million fall in June — and now stood at only \$2.6 billion.

This is well below the \$3 billion "red line" long recognised by economists as the minimum working level and only sufficient for two months imports.

The other grim statistic was the government's unprecedentedly high injection of 95 billion shekels (\$360 million) into the economy last month.

Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Mandelblat followed up the announcements with what the Jerusalem Post described as "a

last desperate cry for help from a central bank about to drown itself and the economy in a flood of shekels."

Mr. Mandelblat said the caretaker government of Yitzhak Shamir must urgently reduce local demand, slash its expenditure by (\$1.5 billion and direct its resources towards exports.

For more than a year, economists have been prescribing similar recipes to bring down Israel's hyper-inflation, now running at 400 per cent a year. Experts now seriously discuss the possibility of inflation reaching 1,000 per cent by the end of December unless drastic steps are taken.

## Jordanian-Iraqi co-operation praised

BAGHDAD (Petra) — The Iraqi newspaper Al Gumhourieh has praised Jordanian-Iraqi co-operation in oil-related affairs especially in seismicological surveys in Jordan where oil exploration is under way.

The paper said that both Jordan and Iraq now have highly skilled technicians who can carry out exploration work unassisted.

Bilateral co-operation in oil affairs started between the two countries in 1982 and so far teams from both sides, working jointly, have conducted surveys over 1670 square kilometres in Qatranah, Mafraq and Azraq, the paper said.

According to the Iraqi daily, Jordan will set up its first oil rig soon once tests on oil samples from experimental wells have been completed.

## WHO expert calls for Arab agricultural strategy

AMMAN (Petra) — An expert from the World Health Organisation (WHO) has called on Arab states to work out an agricultural strategy which would help achieve food self-sufficiency and save considerable sums of money spent on importing food supplies from other nations.

Dr. Samir Miladi, who came to Amman to supervise a training course on nutrition organised by WHO, said in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the Arab World imports \$15 billion worth of food supplies every year.

He attributed this to failure in developing agricultural lands which mostly depend on rainfall, and the delay in taking measures in the face of drought and desertification.

"Only a mere six per cent of land in the Arab World is cultivated, and nearly 70 per cent of this land depends on fluctuating rainfall which is the cause of poor crop production," Dr. Miladi said.

He said that improving situation of the food production in the Arab World "requires preparing long-term programmes to include spreading awareness on the need to produce crops, agricultural guidance and increasing food programmes to school children, factory workers and at child care centres."

Also Arab states can subsidise basic food elements and adopt sound policies for pricing supplies, ensuring continuous supply of drinking water and providing good public health services, Dr. Miladi said.

## Palestine fund to re-impose 5 per cent tax on Palestinians

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Palestine National Fund (PNF) has decided to re-impose a five per cent tax on all Palestinians working in Arab countries so as to cover its deficit, according to an informed source in Amman.

The source said that the PNF plans to dispatch representatives to Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar to make the collection.

anisation (PLO) had in the past relied on contributions and taxes collected from Palestinians employed in Arab Gulf states, but later in 1979, following the Baghdad Summit it received funds from Arab oil states and stopped raising contributions from Palestinians.

Of late, the PLO received contributions from Saudi Arabia only and, according to the source more money has to be raised to cover the PNF deficit.

## Arab-Americans prosecuted by Israelis, reports say

AMMAN (J.T.) — Palestinian-Americans have complained that the Israeli occupation authorities are prosecuting Arab-Americans visiting the occupied territories on charges that they belong to Palestinian organisations, according to Warrea Richey the Christian Science Monitor correspondent.

Palestinian Americans visiting the occupied West Bank are being prosecuted by Israeli security authorities on charges that they were members of "illegal" Palestinian organisations back home in the United States.

Sentences have been handed down in at least three such cases in Israeli courts in recent years, even though membership in any organisation is constitutionally protected in the U.S., according to Israeli civil-rights lawyer Felicia Langer and officials at two

Arab-American organisations in Washington.

It is illegal in Israel to be a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or to be a member of a group directly connected to the PLO. Israeli claims the arrested Palestinian-Americans belonged to groups of the latter sort. The question is whether the authority of Israeli law extends over actions of American citizens committed in the U.S....

The U.S. government's position on Israel's Offences Committed Abroad Statute and its "illegal organisations law" has generally been that the U.S. can accomplish more by working in the political sphere than by directly challenging Israeli jurisdiction on legal grounds.

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.							
<b>JORDAN TELEVISION</b> <b>MAIN CHANNEL</b> 15:00 ..... Olympic ..... Koran 15:05 ..... Olympic Soccer 16:40 ..... Review of the Olympics 20:00 ..... News in Arabic 20:30 ..... Arabic Series 21:30 ..... Olympic Soccer 22:00 ..... News in Arabic 23:10 ..... A special programme on the Olympics 23:30 ..... Live transmission of the Los Angeles Olympics  <b>FOREIGN CHANNEL</b> 18:00 ..... French Programme 19:00 ..... News in French 19:30 ..... News in Hebrew 20:30 ..... Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady 21:00 ..... Best Seller: The Mistake Warrior - Eps. 1 22:00 ..... News in English 22:15 ..... Best Seller Continued  <b>RADIO JORDAN</b> 835 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.00 KHz, SW  07:00 ..... Light Music 07:30 ..... Newsdesk 08:00 ..... Morning Show 10:00 ..... News Summary 10:05 ..... Morning Show 11:00 ..... News Summary 11:05 ..... Pop Session 12:00 ..... News Summary 12:03 ..... Pop Session 13:00 ..... News Summary 13:05 ..... Pop Session 14:00 ..... News Bulletin 14:10 ..... Jordan Weekly 14:30 ..... Music 15:00 ..... Concert Hour 16:00 ..... News Summary 16:05 ..... Instrumentals 16:30 ..... Old Favourites 17:00 ..... Special Feature 17:30 ..... Music 18:00 ..... News Summary 18:05 ..... Top Twenty 19:00 ..... Date with a Star 19:30 ..... Good Old Days 20:00 ..... Just a Minute 21:00 ..... News Summary 21:05 ..... Country Music 21:55 ..... News Summary 22:00 ..... Play of the Week 23:00 ..... News Summary 23:05 ..... Classical Concert 24:00 ..... News Headlines		<b>BBC WORLD SERVICE</b> 639, 720, 1413 KHz 06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 That's That 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours: News Summary 07:15 About Britain 07:30 World Today 08:30 Newsdesk 08:30 Album Time 09:30 World News 09:30 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 From the Weeklies 09:45 Network UK 10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:15 People's Choice 10:30 Brain of Britain 1994 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 People and Politics 12:15 Letter from America 12:30 My Music 13:00 World News 13:05 News About Britain 13:15 About Britain 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsdesk 14:15 Tropic of the Colour 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Network UK 15:45 Saturday Special 17:00 Radio Newsdesk 17:15 Saturday Special 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00 News Summary 19:05 Saturday Special 19:15 Baker's Half Dozen 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:30 Play of the Week Richard III 21:30 Album Time 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 Journey into Hope 23:15 World News Preview 23:30 People and Politics 24:00 World News  <b>VOICE OF AMERICA</b> 1260 MHz, 7200, 9505, 11740 11925 and 12120 KHz 06:00 VOA Morning: News on the hour; news summaries; daily business report, science and medicine, sports reports; editorial; world and U.S. opinion roundups; documentary analysis: American viewpoints; features 17:00 News 17:10 This Week 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 American viewpoints 18:30 Press Conference USA 19:00 News 19:10 This Week 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:30 Weekend Survey of World News, Correspondent's Reports, Music, Cultural Events and Features 21:00 News 21:10 American Viewpoints 21:30 Press Con- ference USA 22:00 News and Editorial 22:15 Music USA (Jazz) 23:00 Weekend Survey of World News, Correspondent's Reports, Music, Cultural events and Features		<b>TODAY'S EVENTS</b>  <b>EXHIBITIONS</b> * Exhibition of a collection of paintings by local and international artists at Alla Art Gallery.  <b>PLAY</b> * A national musical play to be per- formed Thursday at the Department of Culture and Arts Centre.  <b>CULTURAL CENTRES</b> Royal Cultural Centre . Tel. 6610267 American Centre ..... 44371 American Centre Library ..... 41520 British Council ..... 36147-8 French Cultural Centre ..... 37009 Goethe Institute ..... 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre ..... 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre ..... 24049 Turkish Cultural Centre ..... 39777 Hays Arts Centre ..... 665195 Jewish Youth Centre ..... 667181 Y.W.C.A. .... 41793 Amman Municipal Library ..... 36111 University of Jordan Library 843555  <b>MUSEUMS</b> Folklore Museum: Jewelry and cos- tumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 19th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Ota' (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a col- lection of paintings, ceramics, and scul- ptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Luwad. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. 1.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30128.		<b>AMMAN AIRPORT</b> This information is supplied by Alla in- formation department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.  <b>ARRIVALS</b> 08:50 ..... Cairo (MS) 09:15 ..... Abu Dhabi (RJ) 09:30 ..... Aqaba (RJ) 09:35 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RJ) 09:45 ..... Doha, Bahrain (RJ) 09:45 ..... Kuwait (RJ) 09:45 ..... Riyadh (RJ) 09:45 ..... Jeddah (RJ) 09:45 ..... Dhahran (RJ) 10:00 ..... Beirut (RJ) 10:00 ..... Cairo (RJ) 10:05 ..... Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF) 12:20 ..... Moscow (SU) 12:30 ..... Larnaca (CY) 14:40 ..... Kuwait (RJ) 17:10 ..... Paris, Damascus (AF) 17:30 ..... New York, Vienna (RJ) 18:30 ..... Baghdad, Istanbul (RJ) 18:30 ..... Moscow (SU) 18:45 ..... Rome, Damascus (AZ) 19:00 ..... Tripoli (RJ) 19:25 ..... Beirut (MEA) 19:30 ..... Frankfurt, Damascus (LH) 20:50 ..... Cairo (MS) 08:45 ..... Cairo (RJ) 08:45 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  <b>DEPARTURES</b> 08:10 ..... Damascus, Frankfurt (LH) 08:45 ..... Larnaca (CY) 09:30 ..... Beirut (RJ) 09:30 ..... Cairo (MS) 09:35 ..... Aqaba (RJ) 09:45 ..... Beirut (MEA) 11:15 ..... Athens (OA) 11:45 ..... Geneva, Madrid (RJ) 12:15 ..... Paris, London (RJ) 12:15 ..... Frankfurt, Brussels (RJ) 12:15 ..... New York, Vienna (RJ) 13:30 ..... Rome (RJ) 13:30 ..... Moscow (SU) 14:30 ..... Larnaca (CY) 14:30 ..... Bahrain, Doha, Muscat (GF) 14:30 ..... Cairo (RJ) 15:40 ..... Kuwait (KU) 15:40 ..... Baghdad (RJ) 20:15 ..... Jeddah (RJ) 20:30 ..... Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) 20:45 ..... Cairo (RJ) 21:58 ..... Cairo (MS)		<b>MARITIME TRAFFIC</b> Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Al-Bahr Al-Arabi — Baja California — Medea — Agabus — Hania T — Kosa Agung — Agis Topic — Yana B — Mustafa Zahabi — Char Hwa — Villa Du Levant — Good Luck  Amin Kavar and Sons Company, Tel: 22324 (six lines) at your service.  <b>MONEY EXCHANGE</b> Local selling rates in Jls Belgian franc ..... 65.7/ 66.1 Dutch guilder ..... 117.4/ 118.1 Egyptian pound ..... 316/ 320 French franc ..... 43.2/ 43.5 Iraqi dinar ..... 387.6/ 392.1 Italian lire (for 100) ..... 21.6/ 21.8 Japanese yen (for 100) ..... 157.4/ 158.3 Kuwaiti dinar ..... 1292.6/ 1297.3 Lebanese lira ..... 62.2/ 64.1 Omani rial ..... 1106.6/ 1115 Qatari riyal ..... 105.8/ 106.2 Saudi riyal ..... 110.1/ 110.5 Swedish crown ..... 45.8/ 46.1 Swiss franc ..... 156.6/ 157.5 Syrian lira ..... 48.5/ 49.6 U.A.E. dirham ..... 105.3/ 105.7 U.S. dollar ..... 385/ 387 W. German mark ..... 152.7/ 135.5  <b>WEATHER</b> Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be fair, with northwesterly mod- erate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.  Low/high temperature in deg.C Amman ..... 15/33 Aqaba ..... 24/37 Dahab ..... 18/25 Jordan Valley ..... 23/38  Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 37. Humidity read- ings: Amman 27 per cent, Aqaba 24 per cent.		<b>EMERGENCIES</b> Ambulance ..... 193, 775111 First Aid, fire, police ..... 199 Blood bank ..... 775121 Civil Defence rescue ..... 661111 Fire headquarters ..... 22090-3 Police rescue ..... 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters ..... 39141 Traffic police ..... 56390-1 Electric Power Co. ..... 36381-2 Municipal water service ..... 77125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... (08) 53333  <b>HOSPITALS</b> Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813-32 Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 44281-4 Akhleh Maternity, J. Amman ..... 42441 Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 42362 Malhas, J. Amman ..... 36140 Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 664171-4 Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131 University Hospital ..... 845845 Dar Al-Shifa, J. Hussein ..... 667158 Al-Musharraf Hospital ..... 667227-9 The Islamic, Abdali ..... 665292 Al-Ahli, Abdali ..... 664164 Hotel complaints ..... 77101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 77511-8 Army, Marka ..... 91611  <b>NIGHT DUTY</b> <b>AMMAN:</b> Dr. Wael Khartab ..... 675035  <b>IRBID</b> Dr. Mohammad Al Shari ..... 73680 Al Awwad pharmacy ..... 74532  <b>ZARQA:</b> Dr. Issa Abu Judeh ..... (-) Nuha pharmacy ..... (-)  <b>GENERAL</b> Jordan Television ..... 73111 Radio Jordan ..... 74111 Ministry of Tourism ..... 42311 Hotel complaints ..... 664612 Price complaints ..... 661176 Telephone: Information ..... 12 Jordan and Middle East calls ..... 10 Overseas calls ..... 17 Cable or telegram ..... 18 Repair service ..... 11		<b>MARKET PRICES</b>  Upper/lower price in Jls per kg. Apple ..... 330/ 340 Apple (local) ..... 300/ 250 Apricots ..... 600/ 500 Banana ..... 280/ 240 Banana (Mukhammar) ..... 240/ 210 Beans ..... 230/ 200 Cabbage ..... 130/ 100 Carrot ..... 140/ 110 Cauliflower (white) ..... 210/ 180 Cherries (all kinds) ..... 850/ 750 Cucumber (large) ..... 130/ 100 Cucumber (small) ..... 120/ 100 Eggplant (large) ..... 140/ 120 Eggplant (small) ..... 120/ 100 Figs ..... 450/ 400 Garlic ..... 220/ 180 Grapes ..... 220/ 180 Lemon ..... 320/ 280 Mallow ..... 70/ 50 Marrow (large) ..... 130/ 100 Marrow (small) ..... 180/ 150 Onion (dry) ..... 140/ 120 Okra ..... 380/ 340 Peas ..... 350/ 300 Pumpkin ..... 100/ 80 Peaches ..... 250/ 200 Pepper (sweet) ..... 240/ 200 Pepper (hot green) ..... 180/ 140 Pumpkin ..... 300/ 250 Potatoes ..... 200/ 160 Sweet Melon ..... 100/ 70 Tomatoes ..... 100/ 70 Water Melon ..... 120/ 100	

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## Hussein visits security directorate

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Thursday paid a visit to the Public Security Directorate (PSD), where he was received by PSD Director General Lieutenant-General Diab Yusef, his aides and senior PSD officers.

King Hussein met for some time with Lt.-Gen. Diab Yusef and issued directives regarding the PSD.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Ministers discuss extraction of table salt

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Transport Taher Hikmat and Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani paid a visit Thursday to the towns of North and South Azraq to discuss the extraction of table salt, by the Arab Potash Company to produce this compound. Mr. Hikmat and Dr. Anani discussed with Azraq Co-operative Society members the various points related to this subject with a view to presenting the necessary recommendations to a ministerial development committee.

## CAA to visit Philippines

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), led by CAA Director General Khaled Mohammad Ali, will pay a visit to the Philippines during the next week for bilateral talks related to signing an air transport agreement between the two countries. The Philippine authorities have sent a memo to the Ministry of Transport expressing their willingness to sign such an agreement and the possibility of operating air flights between the two countries.

## Netherlands invite industrial team

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman Chamber of Industry has received an invitation from the imports promotion centre in the Netherlands to participate in a training course on the promotion of developing countries' exports to be held by the centre on Oct. 31. The 15-day course will discuss technical matters related to marketing and packaging which are of interest to industrialists and exporters.

## Agriculture ministry to attend seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in an Arab seminar on developing fruit tree cultivation in semi-arid regions scheduled to open in Damascus on Aug. 18. Engineer Ali Abu Zureiq from the Ministry of Agriculture will attend the five day meeting.

## ACC lends JD 216,050 to farmers

AMMAN (Petra) — The Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) is currently lending Jordanian farmers JD 216,050 to help them carry out agricultural projects. The ACC loans will finance 50 projects including the purchasing and installing of greenhouses, plasticulture operations, buying tractors, installing drip irrigation equipment and installing pumping stations for pumping ground water for irrigating crops.

## Arab labourers in Europe to be reviewed

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will attend meetings of the advisory committee on Arab labourers employed in European countries which will be held in Casablanca, Morocco, early in October. Dr. Saleh Al Khasawneh, under secretary of the Ministry of Labour, will take part in the meetings.

## Ministries, local inhabitants to build community centres

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Social Development will start building local community centres around the country as of the middle of next month and is seeking co-operation from government ministries and local citizens to carry out the project.

The scheme was discussed by Ministers of Social Development and Municipal and Rural Affairs

and the Environment Abdul Salam Kansan and Hamdullah Al Nabulsi at a recent meeting.

The two ministers said that they will be touring villages where local centres are to be set up with local people's help. They will discuss the idea with local inhabitants and hear their views and their requests.

## Businessmen request action for speedy Saudi visas

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian merchants have complained to the government about difficulties they encounter whilst trying to obtain visas to enter Saudi Arabia on business according to a report in Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily.

The report said that the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce has submitted a memo to Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri regarding the complaint, and demanding that steps be taken to allow Jordanian businessmen speedy visas and easy travel to Saudi Arabia.

Saudi businessmen and merchants can obtain visas for entering Jordan at border posts and their Jordanian colleagues should be allowed similar privileges, the memo said. It also urged the minister to take up the matter with the Saudi authorities.

## Researcher warns of pesticide effects

AMMAN (J.T.) — A teacher of chemistry and researcher in the use of chemical compounds at the University of Jordan warns of the consequences of the excessive use of the insecticides and pesticides.

These chemical substances, used in fields and on agricultural crops, are harmful to all living creatures especially man, says Mrs. Maha Tutunji in a report on her findings following a thorough research in the use of chemical substances used to control insects, pests and rodents.

According to the report industrialised nations which produce these pesticides ban their use in their countries but allow the chemicals to be exported to the Third World where they are often used on a large scale.

Although specialists in Third World countries have been warning against the excessive use of chemicals in agriculture, workers and farmers normally use quite a

considerable amount of these materials on their lands, says the report.

Mrs. Tutunji says that there are numerous other chemicals, other than pesticides, which are being used in developed countries but which have not yet reached Jordan. But she says, Jordan, along with other Third World nations, continues to import huge quantities of pesticides that are mostly manufactured in Europe and the United States.

In fact, some of these chemical substances have never been registered in the countries where they have been produced and are labelled for export to the Third World, according to the report.

Former U.S. President Jimmy Carter endorsed a law banning the export of certain types of pesticides but the Reagan administration has rescinded that law and the export of all types of American-made pesticides has resumed since 1981, the report

adds. It also notes that the World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned against the dangers of excessive use of pesticides.

Over the past 30 years, says Mrs. Tutunji, the number and types of insects have increased progressively and many are now resistant to insecticides. Also poisonous chemicals used to eliminate rodents such as rats, which have appeared in Jordan in alarming numbers over the last few years, have proved to be ineffective, she says.

The last few years have witnessed an alarming increase in the almost daily use of pesticides and insecticides in Jordan, and according to the report the number of types being imported runs into the hundreds.

The findings of the report were submitted to the Arab environment conference, held in Tunis last year, and were debated by the delegates.



His Majesty King Hussein attends Friday prayers at Hamza Ibn Abdul Muteleb Mosque in Amman (Petra photo)

## Hussein attends prayers, science education sermon

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein attended Friday prayers at Hamza Ibn Abdul Muteleb Mosque in Amman.

His Majesty and the crowd of worshippers listened to Friday's sermon which was delivered by the Mufti of the Jordanian Armed Forces Sheikh Nuh Sulaiman.

Sheikh Sulaiman stressed the importance of seeking knowledge and education and said that our Islamic nation has deep roots for the pursuit of knowledge and that its scientific doctrine considers education as an honour which is linked with work and serving the community.

Sheikh Sulaiman also said that seeking education and knowledge should not only be related to the

income-generating sciences but should rather be related to the sciences required by the country and the people.

Sheikh Sulaiman then paid tribute to King Hussein's continuous support for the scientific movement in Jordan and for Shariah institutions and colleges, particularly in the occupied West Bank.

Attending the prayers with His Majesty were Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces' Commander-in-Chief Lieutenant-General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abed Khalaf Dawoudieh and a number of senior government officials.



Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah 'Oweidat (second left) opens a five-day training course for youth supervisors Thursday at the permanent camping site in Ajloun (Petra photo).

## 'Oweidat calls for youth development programmes

AJLOUN (Petra) — A five-day training course for 100 supervisors and heads of committees concerned with youth centres opened at Ajloun's permanent camping site Thursday.

Addressing the opening session Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah 'Oweidat called for the development of the Jordanian youth movement in order to cope with modern trends and social and economic changes in the country.

He stressed the need for youth centres to develop the skills of youth who have creative minds and artistic capabilities. "It is time that youth centres had their own folk troupes that can preserve our national heritage," the minister said.

He also said that an agreement has been reached with the Higher Committee of the Jerash Festival to allocate JD 10,000 to develop

local folk troupes and to finance their activities.

A representative of the Youth Welfare Organisation which is organising the event said that the course is the second of its kind to be held on an annual basis, following a lapse of 10 inactive years.

The first course was held in 1968 when 450 youths from different world nations gathered here in an international camping activity, Mr. Abdul Aziz Al Farajeh said.

The aim of the course, he continued, is to enable participants to exchange information and experience with the purpose of bolstering humanitarian relationships and deepening the concept of serving local communities.

The participants will hear lectures on ways of solving youth problems, will discuss working papers on social and cultural activities and will also make field trips to local youth centres.

## Bazaar for downtown Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman Municipality plans to set up a bazaar near the old municipality building downtown. Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh was quoted as saying, He told the Al Ra'i Arabic daily that the project, which is to be established on an area of 1.5 dunums, is expected to cost JD 5.5 million.

The project entails building a market place for selling Jordanian industrial products and traditional handicrafts such as leather work, brass and in addition to watches and jewellery, the mayor said.

The complex, expected to be built soon, will have a car park in the lower floors and will have a recreation ground and public services, he added.

## White cement company to use local materials

AMMAN (J.T.) — The newly formed Arab company for the production of white cement has decided to use Jordanian new materials in the production of nearly 100,000 tonnes of cement annually.

The company, a joint Jordanian-Syrian venture, has appointed Tawfiq Batarseh as its general manager and has decided on arrangements for starting operations by October.

## Ministers review exports of agricultural produce

AMMAN (J.T.) — Issues related to the marketing of Jordanian agricultural products to Arab countries as well as methods of implementing an agreement signed between Jordan and Syria for the export of agricultural products were the topics of discussion during a meeting held Thursday at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Suleiman Arar, Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Al Anani, Min-

## JD8.6m road construction project to start soon

## Nijem signs Syrian border highway contract

AMMAN (J.T.) — A contract was signed at the Ministry of Public Works Thursday for the building of a 52-kilometre highway from Zarqa to a point near the Jordanian-Syrian border. Work on the project, estimated to cost JD 8.6 million, is expected to begin in the coming months and will take nearly two and a half years to complete.

the ministry.

## Congestion

There are two roads at present leading to the border point in Ramtha, one from Zarqa, through Mafraq and Ramtha which is used by lorries, large trucks and trailers and another from Amman through Jerash to Ramtha which is always congested.

The new road will alleviate the congestion on the Amman-Jerash-Ramtha road because once it is completed it will link Zarqa with Jaber village near the Jordanian-Syrian border.

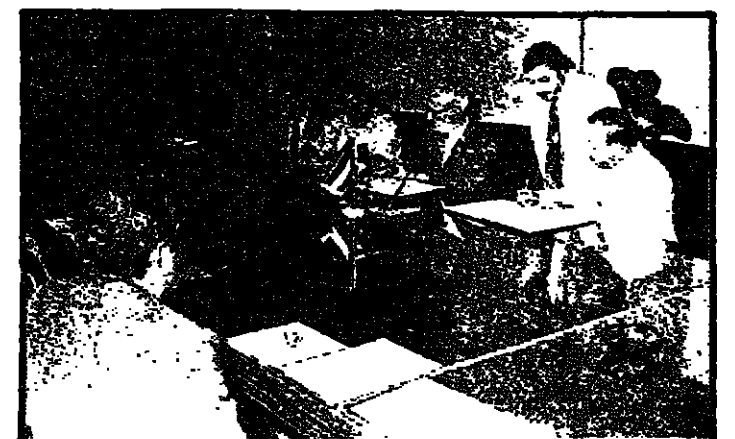
According to Public Works Minister Rayef Nijem, the four-lane divided highway, which starts at the Zarqa road junction and ends at the village of Jaber near the northern border, will shorten the distance between Amman and the border by 10 kilometres and will further facilitate travel and transit movement between Jordan and Syria.

The treasury will partly cover the cost of the highway and a four-million Kuwaiti dinar loan from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) will cover the rest, Mr. Nijem said.

The Kuwait-based AFESD organisation normally gives loans for the promotion of economic and social development in Arab countries. This is done through the financing of development projects with priority given to pan-Arab enterprises and joint ventures.

Mr. Nijem signed the agreement for the Ministry of Public

Works, while the director general of the contracting company signed it for his company in the presence of Ministry of Public Works Under-Secretary Mu'taz Al Bilbeisi and director of the government tenders department at



Minister of Public Works Rayef Nijem (third left) signs a contract Thursday for the construction of a 52-kilometre highway from Zarqa to a point near the Syrian border with Jordan (Petra photo)

## Civil service committee starts discussions today

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Royal committee formed recently to re-organise the Jordanian civil service system is due to meet Saturday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obeidat. The ten-member committee will hear from the prime minister about the reasons behind the formation of the committee and the

aims of its mission.

The committee is expected to form sub-committees to start studying subjects on the agenda which include reviewing the organisational structure of various governmental departments, their requirements of human resources and ways for easing routine work.

## Seminar to discuss Iraqi peace efforts in Gulf war

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian people's committee supporting the struggle of the Iraqi people against aggression is due to hold a meeting at the Professional Association complex in Amman Sunday.

The committee will discuss Iraq's call for peace issued at an international conference on the Gulf war which convened in Bag-

hdad last month. The committee is also expected to adopt recommendations and resolutions which support Baghdad's peace efforts.

Representatives of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, the federation of Jordanian labour unions and the Jordanian Women's Federation will attend the seminar.

## Red Crescent team returns from visit to Soviet Union

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordanian National Red Crescent Society President Ahmad Abu Qura and the accompanying delegation returned home after a few day visit to the Soviet Union, during which they held discussions with the President of the Soviet Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' Federation.

Dr. Abu Qura said their talks with the Soviet officials dealt with bolstering co-operation between the Society and the Federation. "We also discussed the Arab and Soviet working papers which will be submitted to the peace conference to be held in Finland at the beginning of September," Dr.

Abu Qura said. Dr. Abu Qura added that his talks with the Soviet federation also dealt with the amendments to be introduced to the charter and regulations of the International Red Cross and Crescent Societies Association.

Dr. Abu Qura said that it has been agreed to hold a meeting between the Arab and other groups at the beginning of the new year to agree on the amendments to be presented by each party.

The Jordanian delegation, Dr. Abu Qura said, visited the two Soviet Red Cross Centres in Leningrad and were briefed on their activities and services.

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## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday

### Al Ra'i: Arab reconciliation soonest

IT IS very strange that while Israel expresses its dissatisfaction and anger at the row-range Egyptian-Israeli relations, Arabs do not budge to remedy the Arab-Arab relations, which are still encountering many negative aspects.

The regrettable Arab situation is capable of weakening Arab credibility in the world and arousing doubts about seriousness of Arabs to restore their usurped rights. Therefore, improving Arab-Arab relations has become incumbent to remedy the deteriorating Arab situation, which has been and is still one of the main reasons behind Arab disability and one of the most important factors which encouraged Israel and its supporters to reject all attempts at finding a comprehensive and just solution to the Palestine problem.

It is quite correct that the tepid Arab relations have different reasons, yet they are not irremediable, because such relations are not caused by any genuine contradictions whatsoever. On the contrary, Arabs face one major contradiction, which is the Israeli challenge to their rights and civilisation.

Hence Arab leaders are called upon for putting an end to this crippling condition and irrespective of whoever might take the lead or the initiative. Arab leaders should remember that they can not remedy the tepid relations by hugging and kissing each other, but through eliminating the reasons behind such relations. Arab people look forward to seeing their leadership taking the initiative to take up this task, which should in no way be linked to the forthcoming Arab summit, since such relations can be remedied before that. Yet it is favourable that such improvement in the Arab-Arab relations should take place prior to the summit to enable it to face the challenge threatening all the Arabs, instead of concentrating efforts on remedying the tepid Arab relations.

### Al Dustour: Essential EC role

ANY TALK of the Soviet initiative and means for translating it into an international conference for peace in the Middle East leads automatically to talking about the world powers which might help realise this goal, i.e. the EC countries.

Whereas the American stand towards the proposal for holding the conference as well as all international and Arab initiatives for reaching a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestine questions, has been based on the square rejection of all such initiatives, and whereas the United States has abandoned even the neutral status in the Israeli-Arab conflict, by allying with Israel, then nothing can change this position on the part of the U.S. except practising pressure by both Arabs and the Soviet Union on the U.S. through its European allies.

European countries should be urged not to remain as spectators against what is taking place in the area nowadays, they should be urged to work towards getting out of the negative American stand and the unsuccessful American monopoly of the peace process in the area.

If the news circulated Thursday by some media circles about consultations currently taking place among the EC countries for adopting a supportive stand of the Soviet initiative is true, and if the news that France has started its contacts in this regard are correct, then a rapid Arab move is warranted to urge Europe to relinquish its traditional negativism and to start exercising pressure on the U.S. with a view to making it abandon its negative stand towards the proposal for holding an international conference for peace in the Middle East. This, of course, remains subject to the serious Arab determination and willingness to move quickly and to the extent of the conviction by Europe, America and Israel of the serious Arab stand in this respect.

Thursday

### Al Ra'i: Arab weakness foils proposal

WHEN THE Americans turned down the Soviet proposal for holding an international peace conference on the Middle East they were sure that the Arabs will not take a retaliatory action nor will they do anything to affect U.S. interests in their region. Likewise, the Israelis refused the Soviet proposal quite sure that the Arabs will have no reaction and will fail to take steps to bring about the convening of such a conference.

All the welcome accorded to the Soviet proposal in the Arab World will remain as an abstract expression of sentiments and will have no effect at all on the situation unless the Arabs can take some kind of action to ensure the convening of the conference. There should be some mechanism on the part of the Arab World and there should be some steps that pave the way for the conference.

Had the Arabs been strong and united the Americans and Israelis would not have adopted such a negative attitude towards the Soviet proposal, and they would have thought twice before rejecting the idea. Had the Arabs been united and strong they would have warned the Americans of retaliatory measures and Washington would re-consider its stand. The Arabs should not expect the Soviets or the French to act for them or to unite their ranks or chart their unified strategy.

### Al Dustour: World meeting only peace chance

JORDAN SUPPORTS the Soviet proposal for holding an international conference on the Middle East because it is convinced that such a conference is the remaining opportunity for finding a just and lasting settlement to the issue in this region. Jordan's conviction that such a conference should be convened is based on past experience and the past failures of partial solutions to bring about a comprehensive settlement. The Soviet proposal is a serious effort aimed at re-establishing peace, and should be regarded with great appreciation and understanding by all nations.

The partial solutions advocated by Israel and the United States and the Israeli intransigence and U.S. biased attitudes prompt us to call on all nations to support this remaining chance for settling the Middle East crisis. The Soviet proposal which calls for a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands and the participation of the Palestine Liberation Organisation in the peace making process ensures Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

The Arabs welcome to the proposal is a clear indication of their interest to have peace based on justice.

### Sawt Al Shaab: U.S. counter move

REPORTS FROM Washington indicate that the U.S. plans to dispatch a high ranking administration official to the Middle East carrying amendments to the Reagan proposals for settling the Arab-Israeli conflict. The reported American move comes on the heels of an announcement in Moscow of Soviet proposals to settle the Middle East crisis. But the Americans and the Soviets each have their different views and interests.

The Soviet proposal and the international peace conference are blocked by U.S.-Israeli rejection and a lack of co-ordination of positions by major world nations to handle the issue in a meaningful manner. The U.S. for its part possesses no cards to play and is not trusted to handle the issue, and therefore, any move on its part will be seen as aiming at serving American interests in the region. Israel on the other hand enjoys total U.S. support and a strategic alliance with Washington enabling it to perpetuate its occupation of Arab land.

As to the Arabs, they are preoccupied with the Iran-Iraq war and are in a weak position that does not enable them to confront U.S.-Israeli plans. The only hope for a settlement lies with the Soviet proposal for holding an international conference. Such a conference will no doubt expose U.S. and Israeli stands to the whole world, and will remove obstacles for the implementation of U.N. resolutions concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict.

## VIEW FROM AMERICA

# Are women politicians tougher than men?

By Franz Schurmann

THE DEMOCRATIC party of the U.S. now has a woman as its vice-presidential nominee. It is possible that Mondale could win, and it is always possible, given the mortality of human life, that a woman could become president during the next years.

Would that make a difference (as people say in the U.S.)? That is hard to say but one might look at the record of women leaders in various nations during the last years.

Take Margaret Thatcher. Now with spreading and ugly strikes in Britain coupled with the falling pound, she looks vulnerable. But two years ago, she looked tough when she launched the invasion of the Falkland Islands (called Malvinas by Latin Americans). She

clearly liked her tough role.

Indira Gandhi has twice been prime minister. Between the two times she was indicted by a court for crimes while in office but fought back and won. Her tenure in office is known mainly for crackdowns on regional dissent. She is regarded as a very tough lady.

Golda Meir was prime minister of Israel in the years following the 1967 war. She was widely regarded as very tough. Except for Ben Gurion, the Israelis have never had a tougher leader (Sharon is not tough, just brutal).

Mrs. Srimavao Bandaranaike was for years prime minister of Sri Lanka. She was much a much tougher woman than her husband whom she succeeded.

Then there is Chiang Ching, Mao's wife, who was regarded by the Chinese as the real power behind the "Gang of Four".

Do these examples suggest that women in power are tougher than men? Perhaps. There is a current popular song in West Germany called: I want it all now. It is sung by a docile woman who thinks herself stupid, but dreams of being everything: rich, independent and powerful. Women, after all, have been repressed in most societies. It is natural that once they achieve power they will want to show that they are not weak, docile, easily dominated by men, absorbed with the trivial and incapable of dealing with what is important or historical.

In the U.S. it is extraordinary how many women are now in positions once held only by men. These are not just a few super-visible positions held at the top. At second echelons in government and even, increasingly, in corporations, one sees more and more women heading key agencies. The "old boy networks" are beginning to come apart.

In politics one finds it in both parties. In fact, Reagan appointed the wife of the head of the Republican Party in the Senate as Secretary of Transportation. There are powerful women throughout that party.

Some argue that men in the U.S. have become timid, less inclined to take risks, more interested in wealth and comfort

than power and influence. By contrast, women are emerging as the idealists, the ambitious, those who are crashing into the realms of power and influence.

This emergence of women into the public domain is just the tip of an iceberg. Now 56 million in the U.S. work, that is about a quarter of the total population including old retired people and children.

Who takes care of the children? There are, of course, fewer children. The U.S. birthrate is down as is that of the populations of other advanced industrial countries. But professional women in the U.S. often make good salaries. They hire other women, often from poorer countries like Mexico to take care of the children. And

even women who earn low wages (what is often called "feminisation of poverty") will spend a lot of their scarce money for servants to take care of their children and households.

The entry of women into the workforce is worldwide. Even in Iran, women work publicly though they wear the *chador* or *burqa* to do so. In Egypt too, women who are devoutly Islamic wear Islamic dress so they can work in the public realm.

Working requires a certain toughness, and maybe this new female toughness is something we are going to see a lot of over the world in the years to come from the pinnacles of political power down into ordinary life.

## Vienna maintains Kreisky's Mideast tradition

Austria's Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs Erwin Lang recently addressed the Austrian Oriental Society Hammer-Purgstall in Vienna recently outlining Austria's Middle East policy after former Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. Following is the full text of the address.

THE INTERESTS of the Hammer-Purgstall Society, as also the services it has rendered, lie mainly in the field of Oriental and Arabic studies. The subject on which you have invited me to address you today is however a highly political one.

Faced with the question "Continuity or Change in Austria's Middle East Policy?" I answer unhesitatingly "Continuity". I realise of course that I need to prove this assertion, and that is what my remarks are going to try and do.

Former Federal Chancellor Kreisky did for years, thanks to his personality and to his personal gifts, mould Austrian Middle East policy. This, though, was not alone his personal concern, but a matter for the whole Federal government. The policy rests on considerations whose validity continues, inasmuch as their motives relate to political and ethical values, to hold good regardless of personalities.

The essence of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is that two peoples whose legitimate rights and claims can only be settled by compromise are up against one another within narrow geographical bounds. Such a compromise requires that Israel shall relinquish to the Palestinians a part of Palestine, and that in respect of the question what then happens to it. The compromise requires of the Palestinians that they shall acknowledge Israel's statehood and existence and shall accept peaceful co-existence. Currently neither of these two basic elements is on hand nor is there mutual recognition by the two disputants.

The components for a peaceful Middle East solution are contained in the United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 of Nov. 22, 1967. It represents the broadest consensus between all parties. The gist of these components is the equation of peace and security with return of 1967 conquered Arab territory. Resolution 242 does not absolutely unequivocally establish the extent of the withdrawal — it does not expressly postulate complete withdrawal, but it just as little expressly excludes it. In conjunction with other rules of international law, to which the preamble of Resolution 242 refers (a veto on territorial acquisition by force), it can however be argued that the withdrawal must be complete.

Reduced to simple terms, this is the situation: Israel asserts its position to be entirely in accord with Resolution 242 although actually, at present at any rate, it obviously wants something else, namely, the progressive factual annexation of the West Bank and of Gaza.

The PLO is, strictly speaking, clearly ready to comply with Resolution 242 if allowance, the extent of which is not wholly ascertainable, is in addition made for the Palestinian national problem. It is nevertheless, for reasons of internal difficulties, not in a position formally to announce this readiness. That in turn serves Israel, while protesting its acceptance of Resolution 242, as an excuse for pursuing a policy running contrary to the contents of Resolution 242.

Austrian interest in the problem is of a very practical, not theoretical, kind. The Middle East is for the West, and for Europe in particular, an important economic area. Its tensions and its conflicts have dangerous repercussions whose impact is communicated beyond the region's boundaries. Wrong is being done there. The projection of great power influences makes possible escalations which would get out of control. We therefore try to contribute, conscious of the situation's dangers, to defusing the

conflict. These efforts are an integral part of Austrian foreign policy's fundamental objective to preserve and to strengthen world peace. We must, true enough, not overestimate our chances. But we do have opportunities for talks and for contacts, and they have time and again achieved in certain sectors a degree of success and mutual approach. I merely quote the outcome of Austrian exertions with regard to the exchange of prisoners between Israel and the PLO.

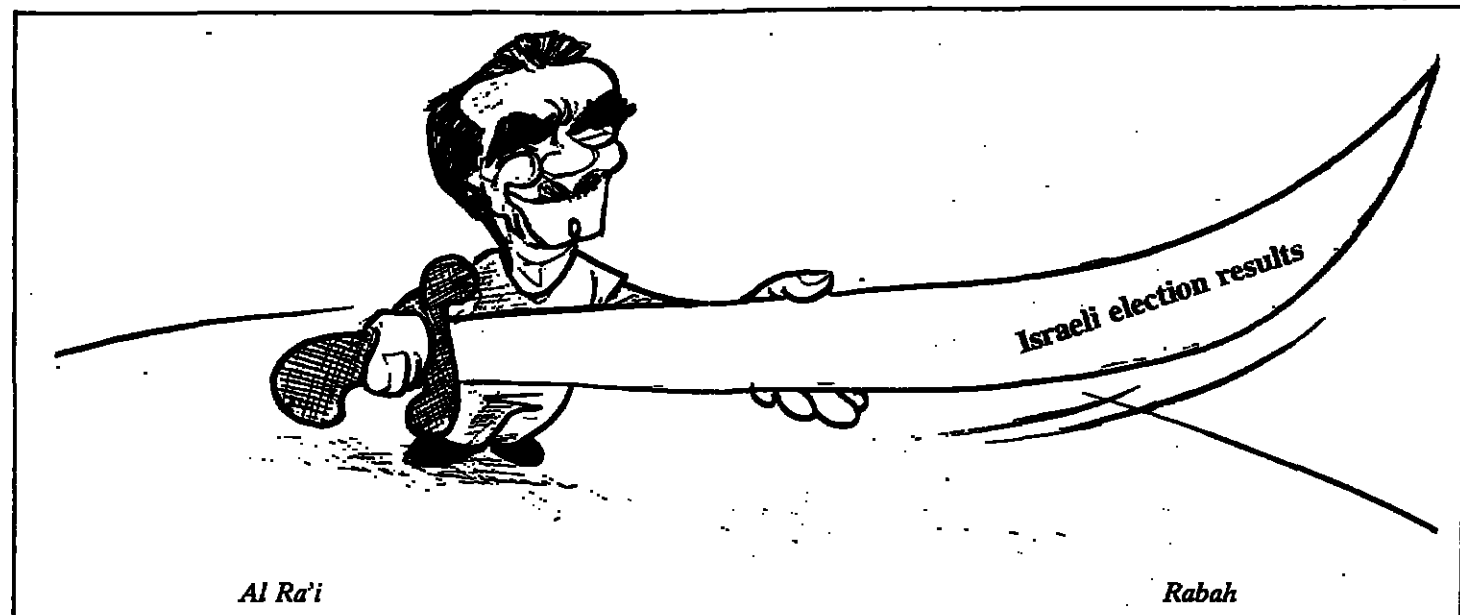
Speaking about Austrian contributions to solving the Middle East problem brings me automatically to the person of former Federal Chancellor Kreisky. Very early on he recognised the character of the conflict. In Europe his readiness in 1964 to use his good services as foreign minister in a mediatory capacity over the Jordan waters dispute, as well as his endeavours, from 1968 onward, to attain within the framework of the Socialist International a better understanding of the Arab position were moves of a pioneering quality. They occurred long before the October, 1973 War with its concomitant sensitisation of wider public opinion. Kreisky was moreover acting on certain principles. The existence of Israel's statehood, entitled like any other state to secure, recognised boundaries and a peaceful future, is a basic element in any just solution. Complementary to this right is recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate claims which must be met and whose fulfilment can also lead to the creation of an own Palestinian state.

A fair compromise must be established between these two positions. A just and lasting settlement that both sides must eventually wish and freely accept cannot be achieved in any other way. The exercise of influence on the negotiating partners, with an eye to a compromise solution and depending of course for its effect on the state of relations with the respective parties, is in the nature of things possible and maybe even desirable.

Naturally I am perfectly aware of how easy that sounds and how exceptionally difficult of performance it is in view of the political problems involved, the accumulated mutual lack of understanding, past bloodshed, and the apparent irreconcilability of the claims.

Kreisky always said — and we agree with him — that a compromise can only be the upshot of talks and negotiations between the parties directly affected. The result cannot be anticipated by prior stipulations. A choice of partners is not open. The state of Israel acts through its government; the PLO is the generally acknowledged representative of the Palestinians. Whoever wants to talk to the Palestinians and/or about Palestinian affairs must, like it or not, talk to the PLO. Dr. Kreisky had a similarly pioneering influence in the matter of recognition for the PLO as representing the Palestinian people and therefore being the proper associate in solution efforts. Not that Austria has failed to take into account the developments through which the PLO has gone, and in the course of time the PLO has gained in stature. Through its recognition by the Arab summit meeting at Rabat it enjoys the sole representative right on behalf of the Palestinian people. Today it has observer status in practically all international organisations.

Austria adheres to the view that the PLO, in spite of its severe crisis requiring internal consolidation in order to be able to vindicate its political weight, must be included in the attempts at a fair compromise. It is the only method of verification whether the PLO is



capable of assuming the political role it claims, and Austria recognises, as representative of the Palestinian Arabs' rights and interests. If the PLO is recognised as a proper associate, it will have the chance to put forward its claims at the level of talks or negotiations. In such case it faces however a very serious problem of political credibility that downright compels it to be prepared to make a reasonable compromise. As for the mode or methods of procedure, Austria has for long past advocated, and I have repeatedly emphasised this, the institution without prior conditions of exploratory talks between the two directly affected parties in the conflict, the PLO and Israel. Taking the status quo as the point of departure, the relevant problems and respective viewpoints could be listed, the right course for formal negotiations ascertained, and in addition mistrust and hostility, in part at least, diminished.

Israeli settlement policy on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip increasingly assumes the dimension of a de facto annexation of this Israel-occupied Arab territory. Contrary to international law, it impedes an approach between the parties and consequently is condemned by Austria as a material hindrance to a peaceful settlement.

Austria has never striven for a mediatory role in the Middle East conflict. It fully appreciates that probably only whoever is in a position to compensate the parties for the forfeitures entailed by the compromise can act as mediator. Dr. Kreisky himself repeatedly underlined that successful mediation could probably only be undertaken by the USA. From a different corner there could merely be attempts to bridge the human gap, which his own tireless efforts succeeded in doing, to extend humanitarian aid, and to show sincere concern. These views still hold good and Austria firmly abides by them.

The changes in the identity of head of government and of foreign minister have doubtless been accompanied by subtle distinctions as to method and style, but by none as to the matter in hand. In my capacity as minister of the interior I had already plenty of opportunity to grapple with Arab problems and to make contacts. So here there is continuity too.

Our unchanged relations with the Arab World are also demonstrated by the course of events. The exchange of visits, which has been especially close between Austria and Arab countries, reflects the closeness of these international relations and the co-operation in the political, economic, and cultural sphere.

Since 1978 the Austrian minister for foreign affairs has called on eight Arab countries and has received seven foreign ministers of Arab states. The first year of the Sinowatz Cabinet's official activity includes two visits by Arab prime ministers and official visits by the Austrian minister for foreign affairs to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait,

Oman, Qatar, and Egypt.

The bilateral exchange of visits is supplemented by multilateral contacts, not seldom in Vienna which is, after all, not only the third official United Nations headquarters, but also accommodates OPEC and the OPEC Fund as well as, since 1982, an office of the Arab League. The contacts between Austrians and the comparatively large Arab community in the capital just as much as the growing commercial and cultural exchanges put Austro-Arab relations on an increasingly broad, friendly basis.

Austria knows that trust and friendship between states — precisely as between individuals — need constant attention. The promotion of similar ideals and principles is of outstanding importance. In this respect Austria has in international affairs never shrunk from taking stands consistent with its fundamental convictions about a just settlement of the Middle East conflict even when its views were not as yet generally accepted by other states with a Western outlook.

In August last year, as you may be aware, I participated in the Geneva Palestine Conference organised by the United Nations.

Austria was the only Western-orientated country to be represented by its foreign minister. Its presence at Geneva put on record Austria's concern for the fate of the Palestinian people as well as contributing to the discovery, by objectification and encouragement of restraint in political claims, of more realistic starting-points for a just and durable settlement of this extraordinarily grave problem.

The conference worked out in this way an agreed declaration and a programme of action with recommendations addressed to the United Nations, its member states, and non-governmental organisations. Rhetorical maximum demands were abandoned. The principles ensued on those expounded to the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1979 already by the then Federal Chancellor Dr. Bruno Kreisky.

The dramatic events in the Lebanon were observed by Austria with consternation and alarm. It tried, within the scope available to it, by humanitarian operations to succour at least a part of the population. The day clinic and kindergarten of the Shatila refugee camp at Beirut, in charge of Austrian doctors, offers needy Lebanese and Palestinians free medical advice.

During the past twelve months the Federal government has placed more than three million schillings at the disposal of the Lebanon for humanitarian aid.

Austria at last year's ILO Conference in Geneva agreed to a resolution rejecting Israeli policy in the occupied territories and, in particular, the Israeli settlement policy. We are deeply worried by these developments and we frankly say so.

I also referred perfectly clearly in my speech last autumn to the

United Nations on behalf of the Austrian Federal government to the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and I drew attention to the unlawfulness of the repressive occupation and settlement policy implemented on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. If there is to be a realistic point of departure for the peaceful solution of the Israeli-Palestinian, and therewith the Israeli-Arab, conflict and if there is to be a stop to the de facto state of war now lasting for decades already, as well as to the human suffering linked with it and to the deadening, or even brutalisation, of human feelings, then, for all the importance attaching to the problems in the Lebanon, the main emphasis must lie on bringing to an end the Israeli settlement policy in Western Jordan.

The Middle East conflict has during its forty years developed on several fronts that are connected in a complex fashion difficult to resolve. It has caused an endless amount of suffering and it has sown hate and distrust. At this juncture the efforts at a solution from whatever quarter — Camp David, Fez, Reagan, the Jordanian option — have come to an almost complete standstill. The

USA's erratic policy in the Lebanon and, concomitant with its withdrawal from there, the loss of credibility for its Middle East policy as a whole have created a regrettable vacuum. Unless the European countries engage themselves more strongly in the Middle East, there is danger of this vacuum attracting extremist forces. That would put a solution still further back. Such a development would however be not only to the detriment of the Palestinians, but also of Israel.

We shall, regardless of all difficulties, continue our efforts to help a just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict to materialise. That was not the least of my objects in visiting six Arab countries. Their assessment of the conflict's current state and of the directly involved parties' current internal positions is of the greatest importance to the planning of the correct policy. We can only hope for the glimmerings of awareness to grow more and more on both sides that moderation of demands, heeding opposed outlooks, and confinement to exclusively political means are not signs of weakness, but basically the best and likewise reasonable investment in a peaceful future.

## To buy or not to buy?

By Jean-Pierre Fenyo

SOME THINGS never change, never find a better competitor, but still more and more things are turning older sooner. For twenty, or so, years BIC pens (in blue, red, black, and green ink) have been unchanged. More BIC pens are used than any other disposable or non-disposable pens world wide. But Parker pens (British made), Shaeffer (American), and similar well known pen companies have brought up newer and newer models each year (there is even a fashion market for pens and no business-person is considered in the top 500 if he/she does not carry the latest style in pens). But this article is not just about pens; it's about the new electronic gadgetry and the old (LCD watches, mini-TVs, computers, printers etc.).

Last year, in New York, I bought myself what I thought was the newest, most practical, light-weight electronic printer ever the Brother EP 20 for about \$130 at the time. I was proud to have "the first of its kind"; that is until eight months ago when I found out that a newer, and better version had just come on the U.S. market from Japan (the Brother EP 50, with a memory bank that the EP 20 did not have). Then I was disappointed: even the price was not too much higher. The new one has a clearer printing ability (the lettering is more legible), and it can store and repeat a letter of over a thousand characters! I felt a bit cheated,

and wished I had waited a little longer (but how was I to know?). In fact my dilemma is not all that uncommon: as more and more people are taken by surprise by a better product. Portable tape-recorders (like Sony's Walkman) are getting smaller and smaller, so it is with TV sets, and if not smaller, then they are getting better and better. On Monday you might buy a watch that can store written messages that remind you of an appointment (which is very useful), but the next Monday you are flipping through the pages of some classy American magazine (Time, Omni etc.) and to your sheer astonishment you find an ad displaying a watch that can record your voice (up to 30 seconds or so)! And the price is not much more than \$30! With all the rapid advances in technology are the companies not suffocating the consumers? Should we avoid buying anything we want or even need until we "feel certain" that a better item won't turn up for a few years? Shouldn't limits be made, or what?

Commodore Computers (who produce the mass marketed VIC-computer systems) tried very hard to please their consumers by taking back their older version in exchange for their newer and better version (provided you pay the difference). But most companies seem to care less whether your gadget is out-dated, out-done or not. The only thing to do is wait and anticipate the arrival of the "thing that can do it all" — if it ever comes, that is.



# Migration changes Mideast map

One of the great mass movements of history is taking place in the Middle East where millions of migrants have crossed Arab borders to work in both oil-rich and oil-poor nations. The following article looks at the numbers, cash and social effects involved in this transformation of the demographic map of the region.

By Nazli Choucri

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — No one knows exactly how many non-nationals are working in each labour importing country, or what is the migrant labour force. A conservative estimate is that there are at least four million Arab non-nationals working in Arab countries other than their own. Then there are at least 2.5 million Asians working in the Gulf region alone. My own belief is that the correct figure might be as high as seven million.

The immigrants cover the entire spectrum of the labour force, from the most skilled to the least proficient. They can be found in any economic sector and in any country in the Gulf region. Increasingly, there are immigrants in countries other than the Gulf, and a major outmigration from North Africa, the Fertile Crescent, and East and South Asia.

There may be as many as three million Egyptians working in other Arab states. There are at least two million Indians and Pakistanis.

The other side of the coin is more dramatic, pertaining to the enormous dependence on outsiders. In Kuwait at least 70 per cent of the labour force is foreign.

In the construction sector, over 90 per cent of all employment is migrant. Since Saudi Arabia has not released its census, we do not know exactly how many migrants there are. My estimate is that there must be at least two million — a very conservative estimate.

A distinctive feature of this migration is that of its movement among developing countries. It is not of the "brain drain" sort, nor is it migration into the Western industrial economies, doing menial jobs which nationals refuse to undertake.

Then it is a migration that is, on the surface, temporary. Migrants are expected to go home at some point. In some countries the migrant communities have established much semblance of permanence. In others, the receiving governments are creating all sorts of legal obstacles to permanence. The ultimate paradox, of course, is that migrant workers are viewed as temporary employees who fill permanent jobs. The jobs are embedded in the economy, the migrants fill these jobs temporarily. This means that, in many labour importing countries, there is a fluidity in the labour market, a built-in mobility within a mobile labour force.

In an international context, this

migration is distinctive, as it entails mobility within the developing world and of skills and occupation. In contrast, Turks to Germany or Algerians to France migrated into lower skill jobs. Central Americans to the United States also entered the relatively unskilled echelons of the labour market (not to mention the estimated two million illegal Mexican migrants in the United States).

While the economies of the recipient countries accommodated the migrants and indeed pulled them in, they were not wholly dependent on these foreigners for ensuring the most basic mobility of the economic systems. Thus, the migrants in the Middle East are far more important to their recipient economies than were the Turks, Algerians, Yugoslavs, or Spaniards to Western Europe, or Central and South Americans to the United States.

In 1973 there were 2.5 million foreign workers in France and 2.5 million in West Germany, very large numbers indeed — about 10 per cent of their respective labour forces. In the Gulf countries, foreign workers comprise the majority of all workers. Belgium and Sweden each had about six per cent of their labour force as migrant labour. Only Switzerland reached a rate of foreign dependency as high as 30 per cent of its own total employment.

Who gains? Who loses? These are difficult questions. Clearly the

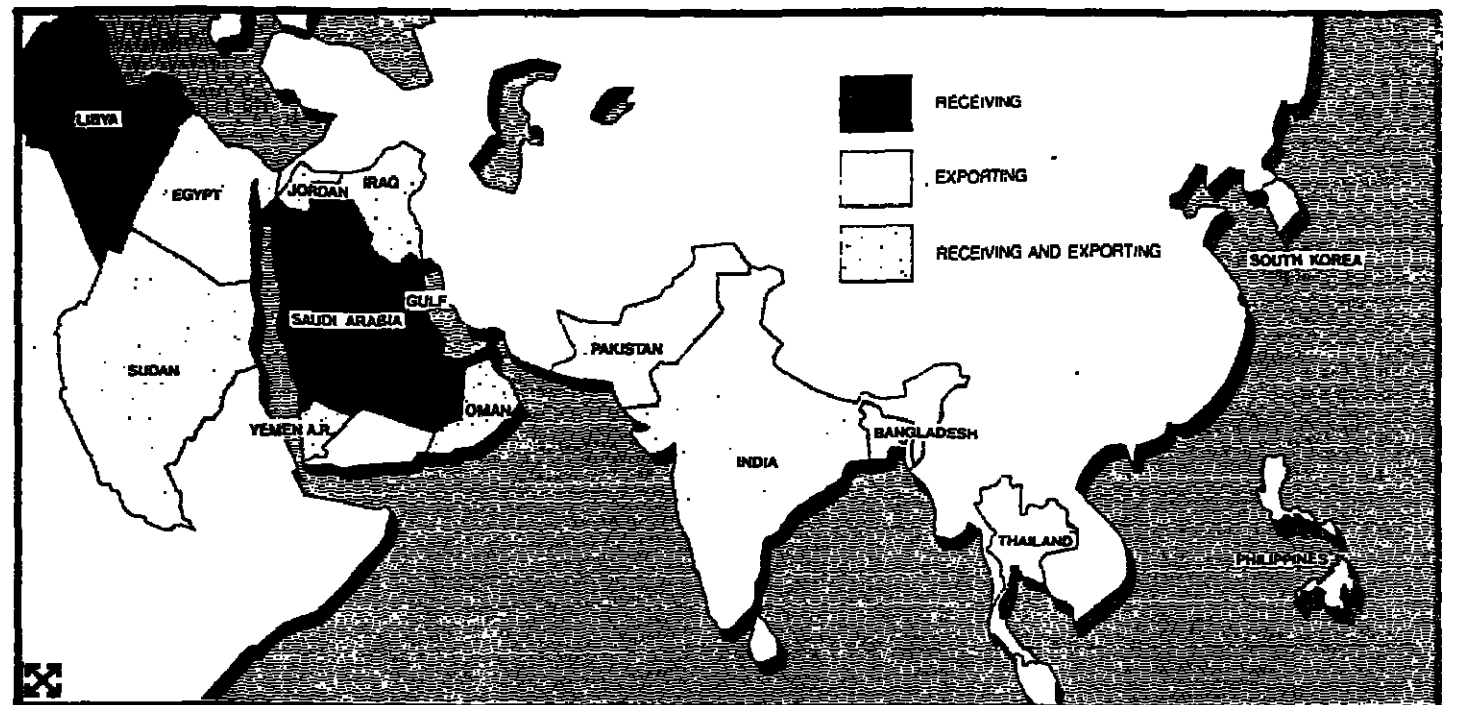
migrants gain, for the economic benefits are extensive, far greater than can ever be obtained at home. Further, they have assured employment, they are needed, and they play a central role in the host economies.

But they are disenfranchised: they can exert no influence on the political, social, or economic programmes of the country of their employment. They are marginal: they do not mix socially with their hosts, nor are they taken in, assimilated, or accepted. They may even be treated as inferiors.

The countries from which the migrants come benefit from the migration, sometimes far in excess of any other economic gain. Remitted earnings — the money sent home — represents the initial, direct, and most visible form of gain. Migrant workers are a source of hard currency, a scarce resource in almost every developing country. They are far more reliable as a source of foreign exchange than any other commodity export.

The volume of remittances has been truly astounding. In Egypt, at least \$3 billion dollars were sent back last year. This figure is about nine per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product and over half the size of its total export earnings.

In India, Pakistan and other Asian states the figures are also high. Pakistan's remittances are three quarters the size of its export earnings and eight per cent of its GDP. For India, the magnitude



relative to economic indicators is less, if only because the Indian economy is so much larger. In Sudan, remitted earnings are almost as high as the country's total foreign exchange earnings. These figures represent amounts which, if foregone, could be a major loss to their respective economies.

In Jordan remittances are one and a half times larger than total export earnings. For North Yemen they constitute the only source of foreign exchange.

From the individual point of view the size is also big. For example, Sudan's per capita income is \$380, and remittances per migrant are well over twice that amount.

Egypt's per capita income of \$650 is dwarfed in comparison to remitted earnings of \$1,000 per migrant worker.

Contrary to popular convention, migrants do not squander their earnings. There is a solid record of remittances spent on investments — taxis, small shops, new businesses. To be sure, much goes into what Westerners would call "conspicuous consumption" — weddings, television sets, trousseaus — but these are also part of social convention and reaffirm their social position. Indeed, migrant earnings contribute to enhancing the social status of migrants' wives and families left behind.

Temporary employment in a foreign land creates anxieties at both ends of the migration spectrum. Senders fear the services of their nationals may not be needed forever. Receivers worry that foreigners are already too deeply rooted in their economies. The result is often an unhappy state of affairs. Senders push for concessions and assurance of employment. Receivers look for proof of temporariness and eschew any prospects for permanence.

Then there is the social dimension. Unskilled workers are often living alone in an alien society, hardly a prescription for individual welfare. In some receiving countries, there is explicit prohibition of the migration of unemployed dependents. Those that are left behind, the families of migrants, are also alone. They depend on remittances for their survival.

There is a darker side to this story, however, namely that income disparities might be exacerbated when income flows out of the hands of migrants' families. New patterns of consumption emerge, and a new distribution of income. The old, traditional social system is disturbed, and the social order invariably unsettled. — Compass feature.

## Polygamy continues in Thailand

By Denis D. Gray

Associated Press  
BANGKOK. — Suphat Teerap Absakul Wong, a 40-year-old noodle seller, does not try to hide the fact that he has seven wives and 22 children living happily under one roof.

During the day, they all take part in making his well-known ground pork balls to be sold with noodles. At night, Suphat says he rotates among his wives, each of whom maintains a separate bedroom in his house outside Bangkok.

"I regard them as life partners, not sex objects," Suphat said in an interview. "No matter whether they get thinner, fatter, paler or darker, I always love them."

While not many in this rapidly modernizing nation are as open in discussing polygamy, hundreds of thousands of Thai men still practise the centuries-old custom of taking "mianoi," or "minor wives." They include senior government officials, army officers, business executives, truck drivers, janitors and even members of a growing, urban middle class, which has replaced many other traditional practices with Western ways.

Minor wives are in fact very much a part of urban sub-culture. An automobile with heavily tinted windows is sometimes dubbed a "minor wife car," while the early afternoon movie showings are called "minor wives shows" because a number of unemployed wives of wealthy husbands are said to frequent them after sleeping late.

Following the 1932 revolution, when absolute monarchy was replaced by a constitutional one and reforms were initiated, a law was passed saying only one woman could be legally registered as a wife. But polygamy is not punished in Thailand's widely tolerant society and children of minor wives can be legalised and bear the

father's name if he so wishes.

"This one-wife law is a Western import. Thai men traditionally have had freedom — let's keep it," notes one prominent literary figure, speaking at a Bangkok night spot. "If I were a Farang (Caucasian) husband, would I be sitting here drinking? No, I'd be at home with my wife."

Polygamy and male dominance in Thailand are rooted in ancient Hindu and Chinese cultures. Thai monarchs and wealthy lords accumulated principal and minor wives as symbols of wealth, insurance for continuation of the line and often for use in political power moves. Rama V Thailand's great, 19th-century king, had 92 wives, and 77 children and wrote tender love letters to a number of his favourites.

The institution has undergone considerable change since those days.

Dr. Debbanong Muangman, a leading academic and pioneer of sex research in Thailand, says modern-day husbands normally try to keep minor wives a secret from the legal wife. One prominent government official on his deathbed confessed to his wife that he had six others, although two of his daughters attending the same school had discovered they had the same father.

Some men, however, take minor wives openly and often when the principal wife begins to lose her youth. One nasty Thai proverb describes principal wives as "getting old easily, dying slowly, eating a lot and turning as ferocious as dogs."

Dr. Debbanong, dean of the psychology faculty at Bangkok's Mahidol University, noted in an interview that wives of either stripe are becoming more independent economically, mobile and jealous.

Dr. Debbanong notes many polygamous situations are fraught

with unhappiness in Thailand's fast-changing society.

Minor wives no longer serve a political function, but many young women — especially those who migrate to Bangkok from poor, up country areas — find being a minor wife is an economic anchor and sometimes a road to wealth and leisure. Somewhat incredibly, some men with incomes of \$200 or less manage to maintain several wives although these will at times be employed and remit part of their wages to the husband.

Whatever merits the multi-wife system may once have held, it has degenerated to a case of plain sexual gratification and male selfishness. Mrs. Temsiri Boonyasinh, a member of the prime minister's office and a respected social observer, believes many contemporary men shirk obligations they once upheld in old times to their wives.

"There is still a value in Thai society that a man who has more than one wife is rich and powerful. Openly he might not be admired but secretly many envy his ability to cope with many women," adds Dr. Debbanong, whose grandfather had eight wives but whose foreign-educated father was monogamous.

Dr. Debbanong has conducted some preliminary research to determine the prevalence of polygamy. Several years ago 1,000 Bangkok suburban wives were queried and five per cent knew their husband had other wives while 10 per cent were "very suspicious." Last year he found in a nationwide survey that among 4,640 youths between 13 and 20 years of age 8.7 per cent could identify siblings from other than their own mother.

"Thai women are making their own way upward day by day," says Mrs. Temsiri. "But minor wives? That has lasted a thousand years and won't change that easily."

## 'Black Death' remains mystery

By Carla McLaughlin

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — The Black Death rages across 14th-century Europe, killing a third of the population. Wagons roam the desolate streets and drivers shout, "Bring out your dead!" The mystery disease, cause and cure unknown: the plague.

Today, the cause and cure of human plague are known, but the disease remains mysterious. The complex ecology of plague and the mechanisms that can trigger an epidemic continue to baffle scientists. And 1983 has seen the continuation of the sharp upsurge in the number of plague cases reported in recent years. Thirty-nine cases were reported in the United States this year. Six of the victims died.

New Mexico had 26 cases, by far the most of any state. Four other western states, Arizona, California, Oregon, and Utah, also reported human plague in 1983. Nine states reported plague among animals.

### Symptoms misleading

The horrifying reputation of the disease, which has lent its name to maladies having nothing to do with plague, tends to create panic. But the initial symptoms are often not disturbing enough. High fever, vomiting, rapid heartbeat, and swelling of lymph glands in the groin or armpits are the most common symptoms, and people who see them often misdiagnose them as influenza and leave them untreated.

Only pneumonic plague, a rare and more virulent form of the disease, can be spread by coughing. Bubonic plague, the most common type, which can be cured by antibiotics, is transmitted by flea bites. Doctors most dread the highly contagious pneumonic form, which kills more quickly.

Dr. Allan Barnes, director of the Plague Branch of the federal Centers for Disease Control, believes there is cause for concern, but not alarm. "The problems we have with plague now are merely individual encounters with the disease in nature and not epidemic outbreaks," he says.

The Plague Branch, located here in Fort Collins, monitors, analyzes, and consults on plague cases in the United States and advises the World Health Organization on plague in the Western Hemisphere.

"Our primary objective," says Dr. Barnes, "is to develop data that will enable us to detect and ultimately to predict epizootic outbreaks in wild rodent populations that may lead to human exposure. Wild rodent plague, although very scattered, is a reservoir of disease, and if we let our guard down we have a potential for epidemic."

### Carried by fleas

Bubonic plague is a natural disease of rodents, and it is carried from rodent to rodent by fleas. The length and severity of an outbreak depends on rodent susceptibility, the organism itself, the fleas that carry it, and environmental factors. Plague can establish itself in an animal community without causing outward signs of illness, letting a reservoir of infection go undetected.

Human plague in the United States results from chance encounters with infected fleas or from handling diseased animals. Since 1925, all North American plague cases have been traced to wild rodents, such as ground squirrels, and their fleas. However, other animals, including pets, have played intermediary roles by taking the infected fleas to areas where humans live.

The last urban plague epidemic

in North America was in Los Angeles in 1924-25, when 34 of 38 victims died. The eastern United States is plague free because, scientists believe, it has few community-dwelling rodent species with the population density to allow the disease to thrive.

Vaccines are available, but are considered useful only for persons at high risk, and are effective for only six months. They reduce mortality in bubonic plague, but not in pneumonic.

The high incidence of plague in the Southwest is believed to come partly from life style and partly from the types of rodents and fleas that live there.

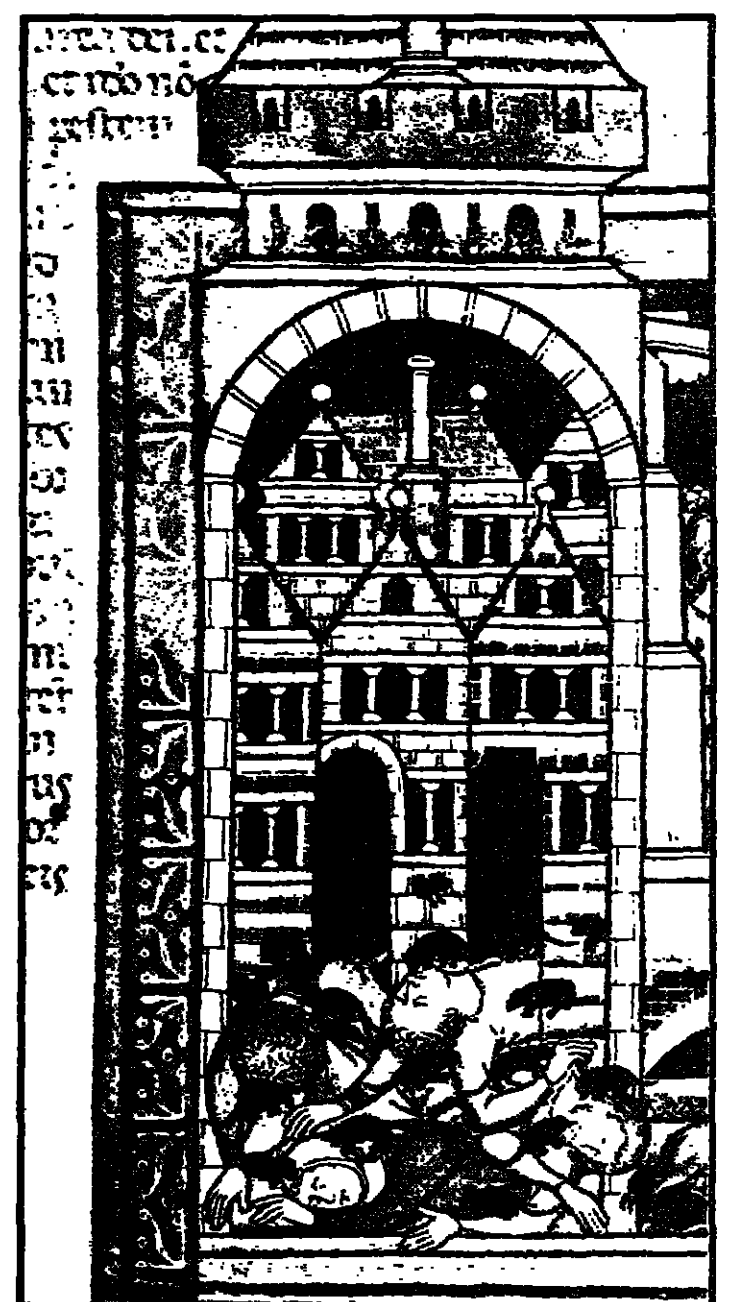
The region's rural and expanding suburban populations live close to communities of rodents. Many people live near the rock squirrel, which hosts a species of flea that readily bites humans. Domestic dogs roam freely and carry diseased fleas home to their owners. Dogs, however, are resistant to plague. Cats are not, and should they become ill, they can transfer plague directly to humans.

### Prevention of contact

A ground squirrel infected with bubonic plague was found in a Los Angeles city park in early October, 1983. Anxious health officials spread poison grain for squirrels and dusted insecticide for fleas.

"Rat control programmes in both urban and rural areas in the western United States represent the most important barrier to the recurrence of epidemic plague," says Dr. Barnes.

Control methods in wilderness areas are aimed primarily at the prevention of human contact with flea carriers. Wild rodent eradication on a large scale would not be feasible, Dr. Barnes says. — National Geographic feature.



Rats chew upon their victims in an artist's rendition of "mice that mar the land," and account of a disease, possibly the plague, that was recorded in the First Book of Samuel. The illustration is from a 13th-century Bible. Not until 1908 was the carrier of plague conclusively identified as fleas residing on rats and other rodents (National Geographic photo)

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## Egypt qualifies for last 8 in Olympic soccer

LOS ANGELES (R) — Egypt qualified for the Olympic soccer quarter-finals at the expense of the United States Thursday when they drew 1-1 with the host country in the last of their three preliminary group matches.

The Egyptians cast aside their earlier image of rough play and held on desperately as the Americans tried to score the one goal that would have taken them into the last eight.

But the vital goal eluded them despite the noisy support of the home fans at the Stanford stadium in Palo Alto, California.

Earlier, France and Chile drew 1-1 in Annapolis, Maryland, a result which took both into the last eight.

Costa Rica surprised mighty Italy 1-0 in the other final round match of Group D Thursday night.

But the Italians had already qualified for the quarter-finals and the brave effort by the Costa Ricans came too late in their Olympic campaign.

The winner arrived in the 33rd minute when Enrique Rivers fired

home a low, right-footed drive from the corner of the penalty area. Italy battered the Costa Rican defence for the rest of the match but failed to find the net.

Italian coach Enzo Bearzot, the man who led the country to World Cup victory two years ago, fielded several players who had not taken part in the two qualifying matches earlier in the week against the U.S. and Egypt.

But it was the U.S.-Egypt clash which provided most drama.

Defender Gregg Thompson put the hosts ahead in the seventh minute when he met a chipped cross from Borja and saw his looping header drop from the underside of the bar to be helped into the net by an Egyptian defender.

But the Egyptians equalised after 27 minutes when Emad Suleiman stooped to meet a cross

from the right and nodded the ball home.

The Arab side packed their defence throughout the second half and held on despite a constant onslaught by the Americans.

On the final whistle, the Egyptian players ran to the side of the pitch to hail hundreds of their fans waving the national flag.

Italy won Group D with four points. Egypt and the U.S. were level on three points as well as on goal difference but the Egyptians scored one goal more.

In Group A, France finished top with four points and Chile came second having scored fewer goals. Norway finished third by beating Japan 2-0.

In the France-Chile match in Annapolis, Sanis put the South Americans ahead after four minutes but Jean-Claude Lemahieu equalised in the 50th minute when his shot spun out of goalkeeper Eduardo Fournier's hands and rolled into the goal.

Two Japanese players were sent off, bringing to eight the total number of players expelled in the qualifiers.

## Americans dominate boxing

LOS ANGELES (R) — The world's top-ranked amateur bantamweight, Robert Shannon, became the 10th consecutive American to win in the Olympic boxing tournament Thursday night when he scored a unanimous decision over Sammy Mwangi of Kenya.

But in winning his opening bout, 21-year-old Shannon was far less impressive than his main rival in the tournament, World Cup Champion Maurizio Stecca of Italy.

Stecca, the favourite to win the gold medal, who also scored a 5-0 decision over Philip Sutcliffe of Ireland.

Shannon's triumph followed a decisive featherweight (57kg) victory by 17-year-old Meldrick Taylor. It gave the United States a 10-0 record in the tournament.

Other medal contenders who advanced to the third round were bantamweights Pedro Nolasco of the Dominican Republic, Juan Molina of Puerto Rico and Dale Walters of Canada, and featherweights Satoru Higashi of Japan, Hyeon-Oc Park of South Korea and Abraham Mieses of the Dominican Republic.

By far the most impressive were Stecca, ranked second in the world behind Shannon, and Taylor, the youngest member of the American squad.

Counterpunching strongly, Stecca outclassed Sutcliffe, battering him with swift combinations. The Irishman rarely was able to land a blow.

Stecca led Sutcliffe with a solid left in the second round, forcing a standing eight count.

Shannon, who beat World Champion Floyd Favors in the U.S. Olympic trials to earn a berth on the American team, was never in trouble against Mwangi, a 25-year-old Kenyan soldier.

But the American, an unrelenting aggressor, missed far more punches than he landed against Mwangi, a good boxer without a strong punch.

Shannon, who wants to be a professional boxer and a hair stylist, dropped Sutcliffe with a left hook late in the fight after opening a cut on the Irishman's nose in the second.

Shannon's next opponent, Sung-Kil Moon of South Korea, chased Britain's John Hyland around the ring. He threw a barrage of punches before the Briton's corner threw in the towel at 1:50 of the third round.

It was the first British defeat after six consecutive wins and the ninth triumph for South Korea, second to the U.S. with Uganda.

Others who advanced Thursday night included Bantamweights Robinson Pitalua-Tamara of Colombia, Barbar Ali Khan of Pakistan, Star Zulu of Zambia and featherweights Turgut Aykac of Turkey, Mohamed Hegazy of Egypt, Rafael Zuniga Medrano of Colombia, Peter Konyegwachi of Nigeria, Charles Lubulwa of Uganda and Paul Fitzgerald of Ireland.

## Italians score double modern pentathlon victory

TRABUCO CANYON, California (R) — Daniele Masala of Italy collected individual and team gold medals in the Olympic modern pentathlon after a thrilling finish to the cross-country.

Masala, the 1982 World Champion, lost and regained the lead in the final strides of the 4,000 metres run in the sandy, sunbaked hills around this tiny resort to clinch his double triumph.

The man he overtook just metres from the line, Sweden's Svante Rasmussen, won the silver medal with another Italian, Carlo Masullo, taking the bronze.

In his desperate bid to beat Masala, Rasmussen slipped, touched a fence-post and nearly fell before staggering over the line and collapsing.

The Swedish medical student told reporters: "I was exhausted. I wonder if you have ever been that tired?"

Masala, 29, a physical education teacher, finished the four-day, five-event competition with

5,469 points, 13 more than Rasmussen. Masullo collected 5,406 points.

The delighted Masala embraced his wife Francesca and said: "I won for you."

Asked if he considered himself a typical Italian, he pondered for a moment and said: "I hope so, but maybe with a little more wanting to win."

With Pierpaolo Cristofori finishing 11th, Italy easily won the team title with 16,060 points. The United States were second with 15,568 and France third with 15,565.

Sweden seemed certain of at least a team bronze until Roderick Martin was eliminated from the shooting for firing twice at a target exposed for three seconds when only one shot is permitted.

Swedish coach Goren Bengt said: "It was a stupid thing to do. He is 25 years old. There is no excuse for it. Our team would have been at least third and we'd have had a good chance at a silver."

## Olympic swimmers back on records track

LOS ANGELES (R) — Canada's Victor Davis and a fired-up team of U.S. sprinters set world records in the Olympic swimming pool Thursday night while Michael Gross and Nancy Hogshead prepared to resume the battle for the most medals.

Davis, a 19-year-old student who spurned American university scholarships to work towards his Olympic gold, cut more than a second off the world 200 metres breaststroke record he set a month ago, setting new standards in his specialty.

The new time, two minutes 13.34 seconds, also wiped out the long-standing Olympic record of 2:15.11, set by Britain's David Wilkie at the 1976 Montreal Games.

Wilkie reigned at the top for six years until the curly-haired Canadian finally broke his record two years ago. Now, Davis told reporters, he must work harder to perfect the discipline so his name will remain in the record books as long as Wilkie's did.

"My coach and I think there is a possible 2:10 in my blood. But we'll just have to wait and see," he said. "The challenges to my 200 breaststroke will come from the Europeans, or the Australians, not the Americans. Americans are more oriented to sprinting."

Davis pulled Australian Glenn Bowering to new levels as well, leaving him with a silver medal and the seventh fastest time in swimming history, while Etienne Dagon earned Switzerland a first Olympic swimming medal for third place.

The 4 x 100 metres freestyle relay kept the vast crowd at the open-air Olympic pool roaring excitedly as Australia, Sweden and West Germany drove the American elite squad to their world record.

The Olympic record was improved in each of the three morning heats, and the American four of Chris Cavanagh, Mike Heath, Matt Biondi and Rowdy Gaines delivered the promised world mark at 3:19.03.

Cavanagh was a member of the U.S. national team which established the previous mark two years ago at the world championships.

The Australian four, with anchor man Mark Stockwell forcing new Olympic sprint champion Gaines to the utmost, set national and Commonwealth records of 3:19.68 while Sweden, a distant third, West Germany, Britain, France, Canada and Italy all set national records.

The United States won two more golds on another hot, sunny day, with Mary T. Meagher showing she still dominates the world of butterfly by capturing the 100 metres gold. George di Carlo won the men's 400 metres freestyle. Both will be back to try for further gold.

But the American girls were out of the medals in the 100 metres breaststroke. Petra van Staveren, 18, who has never before won a major championship, became the Netherlands' first swimming gold medalist since 1968.

Canadian Anne Ottenbrite, who won the 200 metres breaststroke earlier in the week, took the silver and Catherine Poirer got the bronze for France.

Poirer, a 21-year-old from Marseilles, said afterwards: "I swam very, very badly. I was so nervous and excited that I could not concentrate on my stroke."

## Switzerland beats Algeria in handball

FULLERTON, California (R) — A last-minute goal lifted Switzerland to a 19-18 victory over Algeria in the closest match of the three-day-old Olympic team handball competition here.

Uwe Mall scored the decider 39 seconds from time to raise Switzerland's preliminary round record to 2-0, while Algeria are still

without a win. Also unbeaten are Yugoslavia and Romania, while Iceland have drawn one and lost one and Japan have been defeated on both outings.

The Swiss-Algerian match was tied 10-10 at halftime and an exciting second half saw the lead change hands several times.

## Medal standings

LOS ANGELES (R) — Olympics medal table on the fifth day of competition.

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
United States	22	12	3
China	7	3	5
Canada	4	5	1
West Germany	4	4	5
Italy	4	1	1
Japan	3	—	4
Romania	1	4	2
Britain	1	1	4
Netherlands	1	1	3
Finland	1	—	2
South Korea	1	—	1
Sweden	—	5	3
Australia	—	4	5
France	—	2	3
Switzerland	—	1	2
Brazil	—	—	1
Colombia	—	—	1
Mexico	—	—	1
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Belgium	—	—	1
Norway	—	—	1
Taiwan	—	—	1
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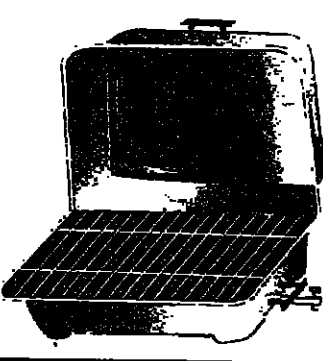
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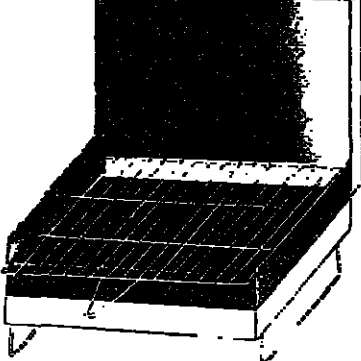
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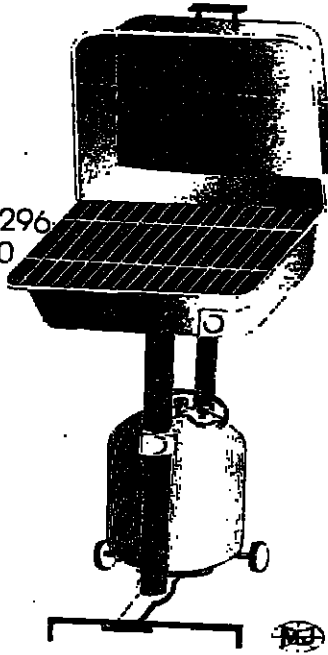
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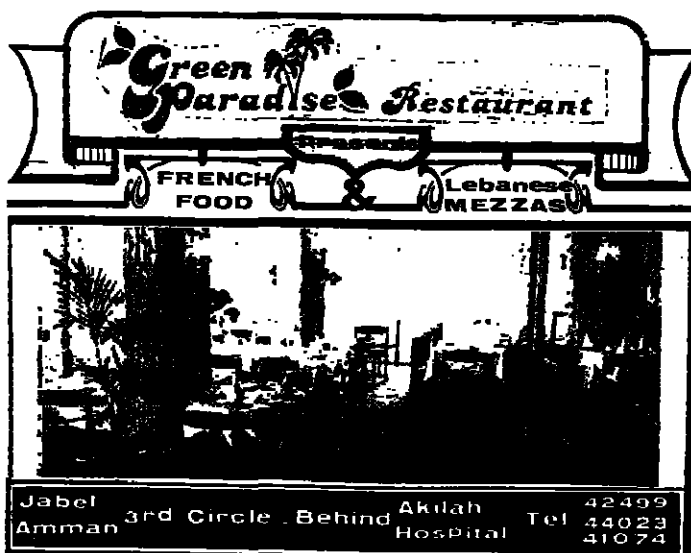


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## E.C., IBM settle dispute

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Commission announced settlement of a four-year-old dispute with the computer giant International Business Machines Corporation (IBM) over the company's competition policy.

Competition Commissioner Frans Andriessen said in a statement the commission was dropping its case against IBM after the company agreed to alter disputed business practices.

Mr. Andriessen said IBM agreed to prompt release of technical data on new computer equipment after complaints from rivals that delays in publication handicapped their efforts to design and sell ancillary equipment.

He said the commission would keep a close watch to ensure IBM keeps to its commitment under the agreement which will remain in force at least until 1990.

The commission agreed IBM can withhold publication of some computer interface information which it said was unlikely to affect its rivals' competitiveness.

Mr. Andriessen said the settlement should mean increased competition in the community's computer market, with a wider range of equipment being made available to users more quickly.

## Row over oil output, prices intensifies

OSLO (R) — Norway has joined an international row over slumping world oil prices, accusing the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) of concealing its own problems behind a smokescreen of criticism of Britain and Norway.

Norwegian Oil and Energy Minister Kaare Kristiansen said OPEC was unable to control its member states, adding that reports of over-production were worrying.

"The situation seems to be getting out of control of the wise people who originally laid down OPEC principles," he said.

"We have the feeling that blaming us for over production is a smokescreen," he added.

Libyan Oil Minister Kamel Hassani Al Maqhour, the current OPEC president, last month accused Britain and Norway of destabilising world oil markets.

Britain has been criticised for expanding production at a time when prices are depressed, but its ability to withstand pressures to reduce official prices is seen by OPEC oil ministers as vital to resolving the present crisis.

Prices on the free spot market have dropped heavily in the past three weeks — though they have stabilised in the last few days — on the belief that there is just too much oil chasing too few customers and that OPEC members

have been exceeding their production targets.

"Reports that production from Saudi Arabia and OPEC countries is far above their own ceiling is reason for some discomfort," said Mr. Kristiansen.

Norway's production levels were moderate, he said. Higher projected figures for 1984 had been caused by increased production from one North Sea field, while Norway had also been granted a larger share in the Murchison field, which borders the British sector of the North Sea.

The Norwegian petroleum directorate forecast production would reach a record of over 60 million tonnes of oil equivalent this year.

The oil minister said Norway would not announce any change in its oil price until the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC) decided how to react to the pressure on prices.

Mr. Kristiansen also called for Western European countries to display solidarity with Norway, and to buy its gas, instead of cheaper supplies from the Soviet

Union.

Meanwhile, the chairman of British Petroleum (B.P.) has called on Saudi Arabia and OPEC to clarify the level of recent oil output and dispel worries of over-production which have caused prices to fall sharply.

"The Saudis have got to clear up these misapprehensions about the extent of over-production in June and July," B.P. chairman Sir Peter Walters told the Financial Times daily in an interview.

"...I believe that not as much oil was produced as people are saying," he added.

B.P. estimated that Saudi Arabia produced only about 4.5 million barrels per day (b/d) in July, more than one million b/d below other oil company estimates, Sir Walters said.

And B.P. believed that 36 million barrels of oil said to be involved in a barter deal for aircraft between Saudi Arabia, Rolls-Royce and Boeing would be released only gradually.

Other oil market analysts have suggested the oil is already being unloaded in the market.

Sir Walters said a belief that there was an oil glut eroded prices and became self-fulfilling.

OPEC reconfirmed a production ceiling of 17.5 million b/d in Vienna on July 10, but B.P. believes OPEC produced between

18.5 million and 19 million b/d last month.

Sir Walters said OPEC ministers should meet and reaffirm, as they did not do at their July 10 meeting, their commitment to a very strict monitoring of their prices and quotas.

The Soviet Union has cut the price of its Urals crude oil by \$1.50 a barrel to \$27.50 delivered, and the price of Brent — the North Sea benchmark crude — has fallen to around \$26.50 per barrel, \$3.50 below the official price set by BNOC.

Diplomats in the Gulf said that the oil ministers of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait were expected to hold unofficial talks with North Sea oil producers soon aimed at persuading them to maintain official prices and avoid a price war.

The ministers are believed to be in Europe at present and are expected to have private talks with Britain and Norway.

Oil industry officials in New York said they expected Saudi Arabian oil production to average 4.5 million b/d and total OPEC output to fall to some 16 million b/d this month.

But they did not expect this reduction to be sufficient to boost depressed spot market prices.

An analyst for Shearson Lehman American Express, said Saudi

production would have to drop to 3.5 million b/d to stop a slide in the cash market.

A senior official of one of the four partners in Arabian American Oil Co (Aramco) said he believed Saudi Arabia produced about 5.7 million b/d last month, 1.2 million b/d more than the B.P. estimate.

On the other hand, new reports of an imminent crisis meeting of OPEC to discuss the threat to official prices were firmly denied in Vienna Thursday.

Mr. Al Maqhour was quoted as saying that a report by the Iraqi News Agency (INA) that the oil producers would hold an emergency meeting in the next few days was "absolutely false."

Mr. Gonzalo Plaza, acting head of the OPEC secretariat, said Mr. Al Maqhour had told him: "There has not been any request from any member for a conference."

INA said OPEC was expected to hold an emergency ministerial meeting in Vienna to discuss the recent decline in world oil prices. Iraq is one of the 13 members of OPEC.

OPEC has no major ministerial meetings planned before Sept. 26, when its watchdog ministerial market monitoring committee is due to meet in Vienna, Mr. Plaza said.

## British unemployment rises

LONDON (R) — British unemployment rose in July by 15,900 to a seasonally-adjusted 3,053,900 or 12.7 per cent of the work force, the government reported Thursday. Employment department officials have acknowledged that the persistent rise — the jobless figure has grown by an average 15,000 a month this year — runs counter to government claims that the economy is on its way to recovery. But employment secretary Tom King Thursday placed part of the blame for the continuing upward trend on the 21-week-old coal miners' strike.

"Jobs are not created by strikes and indeed the prospects for unemployed people must be worsened daily by them," he said in a statement. The miners' action, "in claiming to protect jobs by continuing production in the most uneconomic and unproductive pits puts at risk the jobs of thousands of others."

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 4, 1984

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** A day when you will have the chance to live the Golden Rule since we all have to tone down an influence of the planets that is pressuring us to force our will and viewpoints on others.

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You are apt to light into your mate over some possible mistake but this would be wrong, so remain silent.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 to May 20) A partner may not agree with your views and is apt to start a rumour but you have to control your temper and explain slowly.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 21) Forget those work problems for the time being and find out what it is that is going on around you.

**MOON CHILDREN** (June 22 to Jul. 21) You feel it is imperative that you have a good time today, which is fine provided you do not kick up your heels too much.

**LEO** (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Do nothing that can ruin the harmony at home that has been evident for some time. Keep the conversation light and cheerful.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Important you are careful in motion of all kind, especially on the highways and byways and don't be sarcastic with others.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be careful not to spend too freely today nor get into investments that you would later regret.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are full of energy and bounce today, so be sure to use it constructively and all will be fine. Seek out vivacious, happy friends.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may feel limited in some way so meditate and come out of this mood. Don't discuss any controversial subjects.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You want to gain your wishes but be tactful if you want good results. Try to aid a good pal who is having rough sledding.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be wise and use the soft pedal if you want everything to go well for you now. Don't neglect to get your marketing done.

**PISCES** (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You have many opinions today that could lead you in the wrong directions, so be alert to whatever is happening around you.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY** ... he or she will be highly magnetic and use this quality to gain whatever is wanted. Be sure to see to it that all this energy is used in the right, constructive way, otherwise your progeny could become a holy terror and one that everybody will shun, including the family.

## 300,000 workers accept cash offer to leave West Germany

BONN (R) — About 300,000 foreign "guest workers" and their families in West Germany have accepted offers of money to go home, according to a labour ministry official.

Parliamentary State Secretary Wolfgang Vogt said that one of two schemes had been a success in getting people to leave.

"Guest workers" include Spaniards, Portuguese, Yugoslavs, Moroccans and South Koreans, but the schemes are regarded as aimed mainly at 1.5 million Turks, the biggest foreign community.

The government schemes are expected to cost 1.7 billion marks (\$586 million). They ran for eight months from last November, covering only foreigners becoming unemployed during that period.

The opposition called the schemes discriminatory, but the government said they were an attempt to ease unemployment and hostility towards the 4.5 million foreigners living here.

Mr. Vogt said Wednesday that 16,833 "guest workers" — 2,000 fewer than expected — applied for grants of 10,500 marks (\$3,600) each and 1,500 marks (\$517) per child. But 140,000 workers — three times the total expected — applied under another scheme giving national pension refunds in three months instead of two years if they left.

## Norsk Hydro doubles profits

OSLO (R) — Norsk Hydro, a major North Sea oil producer and the world's largest maker of fertiliser, Thursday announced doubled profits for the first six months of 1984.

Norway's largest manufacturing company said net first-half profits rose to 1.16 billion crowns (\$139.8 million) in the first half of 1984 from 570 million crowns (\$68.7 million) in the comparable 1983 period.

The company recorded net profits of 1.13 billion crowns (\$136.1 million), in 1983.

Norsk Hydro announced last week it was seeking to buy the petrol stations of Mobil in Sweden. It is also holding talks on a takeover of Norway's state-owned aluminium producer Alcoa of Sundal Verk.

### THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

### JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YINNF

SOSAB

MEEFAL

NUHLOY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: KAPOK STOIC ORIOLE TOUCHY  
Answer: A cowboy who talks first and thinks afterwards might do this—SHOOT FROM THE LIP

## Johannesburg moves to rescue ailing rand

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa announced a major economic package to boost the ailing rand and check inflation with a sharp rise in interest rates.

A joint statement from new Finance Minister Barend Du Plessis, Commerce and Industry Minister Dawie De Villiers and the central bank said the government was sharply raising its lending rates to banks from Friday.

They said this was expected to force up the prime lending rate, already at a record high of 22 per cent, to between 24 and 25 per cent. The cost of borrowing for businesses and consumers will rise sharply.

The South African rand slumped to a record low of 59.15 U.S. cents on Wednesday.

"The measures express strong remedial action," the government said. "They are aimed at slowing down the rate of increase in the money supply and total spending in order to prevent an undue depreciation of the rand and a further acceleration of the rate of inflation."

Inflation is currently running at nearly 12 per cent, much higher than the rates of South Africa's main trading partners.

Restrictions on hire purchase agreements will be announced later. Economists say excessive government spending and too much credit for consumers has sharply increased the money supply.

"I'm sure it (the package) will have the desired effect of reducing consumer spending very drastically," one company economist told Reuters. "People are going to be taken to the cleaners... we're going to have a severe recession here."

The government said that the public sector, businesses and consumers would have to make sacrifices, but it added: "No further tax increases are envisaged at present. Instead the government is determined to curtail public sector spending."

## Buddhists weigh setting up bank

COLOMBO (R) — A conference of world Buddhist leaders will discuss setting up an international bank to help Buddhists the world over, a spokesman said Thursday.

He said the bank proposal would be considered by the fourteenth general conference of the World Fellowship of Buddhists (WFB), which opened here Thursday.

A delegation from China was re-admitted after a lapse of about 12 years, the spokesman said.

Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene opened the seven-day conference, attended by 350 delegates from 34 countries.

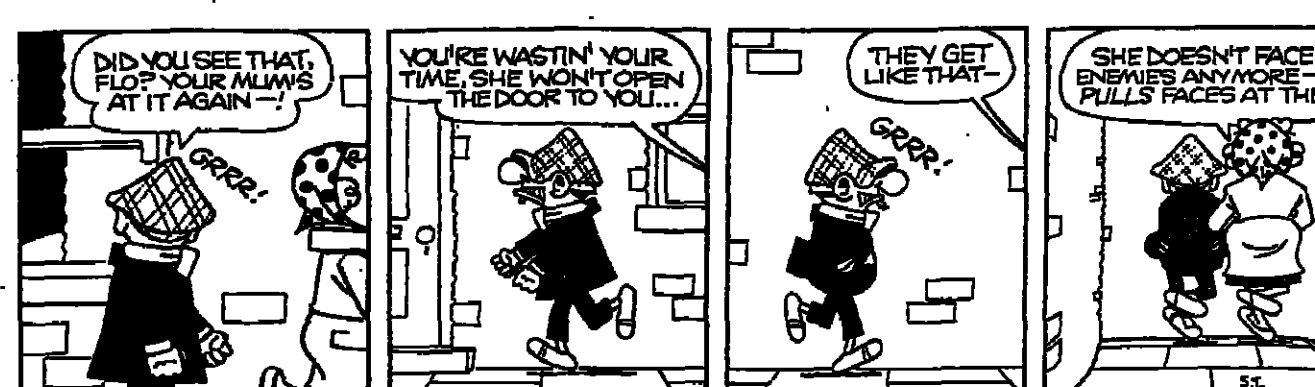
## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE Daily Crossword

By Margaret V. Judah

**ACROSS**

1 Reborn: Lat.

5 Nibbles

10 Hand or horse

14 Again

15 Coin of India

16 Back of the neck

17 Naive

19 Burgeoned

20 Naive

21 Humble

23 Musical instruments

25 — Tin-Tin

26 St. Helens'

29 Dialect

31 Personal fights

35 Kind of 'daisy'

37 Federal

39 Flagellate

40 Under for

42 Disconnect

43 Naive

45 Follows

47 Start for

48 Naive

49 Banned

50 Ending for

51 Uncle Tom's

53 Gulf off

54 Turkey

55 Naive

58 Lowered

63 Start for god or tasse

64 During a short time

66 Anthony or

67 Barbara

68 Grow up

69 Legal wrong

70 Not any

71 Fleuret

**DOWN**

1 Mythical creature

2 Magnani

3 Food

4 Terrible

5 Large dog

6 Places for protons

7 Quick to learn

8 Dandelion, for one

9 Jewish feast

10 Naive

11 — avis

12 Season or sesame

13 Information

15 Pear, e.g.

22 Kind of skirt

24 Musical compositions

26 "There's many —," Alan Ladd role

28 Common contraction

30 Welcome item

32 Boredom

33 Takes on cargo

34 Splash about

36 Coast

38 Hypotheses

41 Ending for differ or

44 Inlet

46 Not a soul

49 Igneous rock

52 "— as I can see"

54 Use a glacierium

55 Arabian port

56 Decorate anew

57 Fede

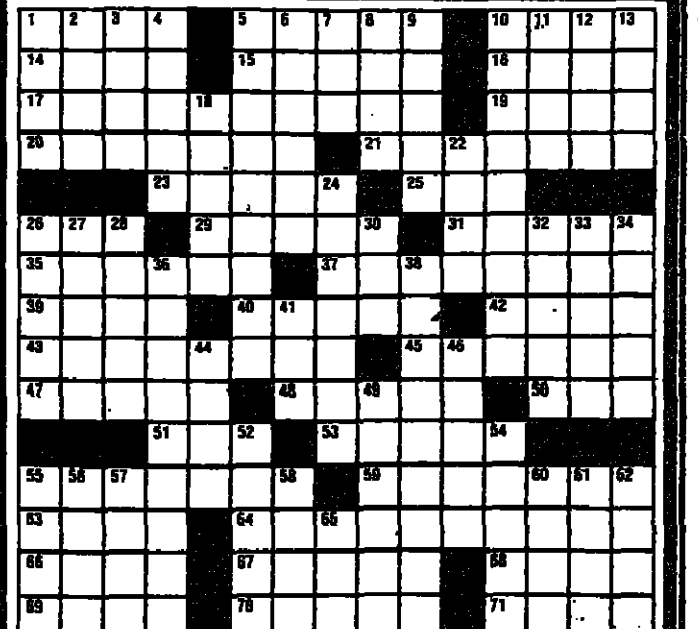
58 Fountain offering

60 Dripping

61 Vidal

62 Heraldic term

65 Quick trip





# Madras Airport bomb blast kills at least 25 people

MADRAS, India (AP) — A bomb, apparently packed in an unclaimed suitcase bound for Sri Lanka, exploded at the Madras International Airport late Thursday, collapsing a section of the terminal and killing at least 25 people, officials said.

Unofficial but reliable sources said airport authorities received three anonymous telephone calls warning that a bomb would blow up, but the airport was not evacuated.

Airport officials, asking not to be identified by name, said the calls may have been placed by an unidentified man who bought a ticket but did not board the flight for which the luggage had been destined.

Rescue workers had recovered 18 bodies by midday. According to United News of India (UNI), but witnesses saw at least seven more. Some of the bodies were

were dismembered. Initial reports said that at least 15 people were hospitalised with injuries in the blast, which blew out one wall and caused the ceiling of the arrival lounge to cave in.

Officials speculated privately that the device had been placed in the suitcase by Tamil terrorists supporting the struggle by Sri Lanka's Tamil minority for a separate state.

They said the bomb evidently was in a piece of luggage that was destined for Air Lanka flight 122, which left Madras for Colombo at 7:20 p.m. (1350 GMT).

The officials said one passenger

did not show up for the flight, and speculated that the warning calls were from that person or someone else who realised that the suitcase had not been put aboard the plane.

On the basis of this, they theorised that the bomb had been meant to explode during the one-hour flight or at the Colombo Airport.

K.K. Gulati, general manager of the Madras Airport, said bomb threats are frequent — as many as one or two a week — but had previously proved to be hoaxes.

It was not known how many people were in the international arrivals lounge, the customs section or other adjacent areas when the bomb exploded. The blast reduced a 30-metre lounge portion of the building to rubble and blew debris almost to the edge of a runway.

UNI said among the identified dead were two customs officers, an airport fireman, a bank messenger, and a Sri Lankan woman.

Five other Sri Lankan women were among the injured, it said. Explosives experts were flown to Madras from New Delhi to investigate, the agency said.

Hours after the blast, a second bomb threat sent officials combing the cargo lounge. Airport officials said they received an anonymous telephone call Friday morning which said a bomb had been planted in the cargo section.

The search was still under way at midday, but no other bomb had been found.

An airport spokesman said officials sealed off the airport and suspended all international flights to and from Madras, a port on the Bay of Bengal about 354 kilometres north of Sri Lanka.

## London's Socialist leader resigns

LONDON (R) — London's colourful Socialist leader, "Red" Ken Livingstone, resigned Thursday to force a showdown with the government over its plans to abolish the Greater London Council (GLC).

The action by Mr. Livingstone, 39, and three other Labour Party councillors means that by-elections will have to be held later this year. He hopes they will serve as an opinion poll among Londoners on what they think of the abolition plans.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government had condemned the move as a political gimmick and vowed to fulfil a general election pledge to scrap the GLC by 1986.

Mr. Livingstone, formally handing over his resignation at the GLC's county hall across the River Thames from the Westminster Parliament, told supporters:

"It is time now for Londoners to have their say, time to go back to the people who put us here in the first place and await their verdict."

Mr. Livingstone, who has led the council since 1981, will stand again in the Sept. 20 by-elections. Mrs. Thatcher's Conservative Party is considering boycotting the poll.

Mrs. Thatcher's government says the big-spending GLC and six other doomed metropolitan councils waste public money and form an unnecessary tier of local government.

The government proposes handing the GLC's responsibilities for housing, education, libraries, parks and a score of other services to local borough councils.

The GLC says services will suffer if the council is scrapped and that London will be left as the only

capital city in Western Europe without a city-wide authority.

Mr. Livingstone earned his "Red Ken" nickname for a series of radical policies undertaken during his three years in office.

Popular right-wing papers attacked GLC grants to a series of minority and fringe groups. "Babies against the bomb" was a favourite target.

Polls indicate that the Labour leader is winning over public opinion, partly thanks to a big poster campaign condemning government interference in local politics.

The government suffered a major setback when the House of Lords last month rejected its plans to scrap elections to the GLC next year and remove the councillors prior to abolition. The move effectively prolonged the life of the council to 1986.



## Airline dismisses wayward hostess

WELLINGTON (R) — Air New Zealand dismissed a hostess Thursday after probing allegations that she sexually molested a sleeping male passenger on a flight from Auckland to Honolulu, an airline source said. Airline Spokesman Bob Wallace said: "The lady was interviewed today and we regard the matter as closed." He would not elaborate, but the airline source who declined to be identified said the unidentified hostess had been dismissed. She had been suspended by the airline after it received complaints that she removed her panties, rolled up her skirt and climbed on top of a male passenger. It was also alleged she was found in an aircraft toilet with a man who triggered the "assistance required" button.

## Scotland's first surrogate baby born

INVERNESS, Scotland (R) — A surrogate mother has given birth to a baby boy in this Scottish highlands town and said Thursday she would do it again. Farmer's daughter Mary Stewart, 35, agreed to carry the baby for childless couple Michael and Gina Dodd after replying to their local newspaper advertisement. "To see the look on their faces was just amazing," she said after Wednesday night's birth. On reports that a surrogate mother in Australia has decided to keep an artificially inseminated child born for another couple, Stewart said: "there's no way I'd break my word." She described her surrogate motherhood as a "no cash, no emotional ties" deal following a storm of protests over "rented wombs." The Dadds had been trying for 12 years to have a baby. They declined to say how the baby had been conceived.

## Playboy mansion to become student dormitory

CHICAGO (R) — Playboy Enterprises said its 72-room Chicago mansion, once the scene of lavish parties and home of hedonism, will become a dormitory for art students. The Art Institute of Chicago will be given use of the Gold Coast House with its indoor swimming pool, waterfall and underground parking. It will rename the building "Hefner Hall" after Playboy Magazine Founder Hugh Hefner. The mansion, which features a 18-metre oak paneled ballroom served as a dormitory for Playboy Bunnies as well as Hefner's personal headquarters before he moved his base of operations to Los Angeles in 1971. When the Chicago property was offered for sale in 1980 it was valued at around \$3 million. Playboy said it will lease the facility to the art institute for five years at a cost of \$10 per year and intends eventually to give the mansion to the school. Playboy said it entered into the arrangement because it wanted to make a contribution to the arts.

## Soviets concerned about poor tank crews

MOSCOW (R) — Spot checks on Soviet tank units last month revealed that young crewmen could not drive the machines properly or shoot straight, the army daily Krasnaya Zvezda (Red Star) reported Wednesday. It said military chiefs were seriously concerned about the poor standards revealed by the checks in the Urals military district, one of the main areas for training soldiers for the country's vast tank armies. Reports on weaknesses in the Soviet Armed Forces appear very rarely. The Krasnaya Zvezda article indicated that the high command considered public condemnation the best way of dealing with a problem evidently causing them great concern.

## Lottery winner dies

BRANTFORD, Ontario (R) — An Ontario lottery driver who retired after winning nearly \$11 million in a lottery last January has died, apparently of cancer. A relative who did not want to be identified said Tuesday Stuart Kelly, 57, died on Sunday of an illness believed to be cancer. The relative said Kelly learned his illness was terminal shortly after winning the lottery. Kelly's wife, Lillian, worked in a dry cleaning shop before they won the lottery, the biggest in North American history at the time. The childless couple planned to give more than half the money to family members and charity.

## Salvadorean rebels release 9 hostages

GENEVA (Agencies) — Three children and six women have been released by rebels holding some 100 hostages in a bank in Soyapango, El Salvador, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) said Friday.

An ICRC spokeswoman said negotiations between one ICRC representative and the guerrillas were continuing inside the bank. Earlier, the commander of the troops surrounding the bank said the rebels released three children and a pregnant woman.

The heavily-armed rebels held about 100 hostages in a suburban bank Friday while considering a government offer of asylum in exchange for release of the captives.

The rebels seized the bank Thursday in an apparent robbery attempt, killing a guard in the process.

Witnesses said there were six gunmen, armed with rifles, pistols, and grenades.

Spain said Friday it was offering temporary refuge to the four guerrillas holding 100 hostages at the bank and said the offer was conditional on another country eventually giving them permanent asylum.

A Spanish Foreign Ministry spokesman told Reuters that Spain was not prepared to give the gunmen from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) a permanent home.

"Our offer to give them temporary refuge was made on humanitarian grounds to save the hostages but there can be no question of them staying in Spain," the spokesman said.

He said no country had yet agreed to offer permanent asylum to

the gunmen.

"Things are still very tense there. Nobody knows what will happen," the spokesman added.

A senior army officer said in El Salvador earlier that Spain had agreed to give political asylum to the four guerrillas.

The spokesman said Spain would prefer the gunmen to stay in the Spanish embassy in San Salvador before leaving for a third country and would only bring them into Spain on a temporary basis as a last resort.

He said Foreign Minister Fernando Moran, contacted by telephone during the night by Spain's Charge d'Affaires in San Salvador, Ines Arguelles, had personally taken the decision to offer the guerrillas temporary refuge.

The guerrillas originally asked for safe conduct to Mexico.

## Indian cabinet reshuffled again

NEW DELHI (R) — Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Thursday reshuffled her cabinet for the second time in two weeks, putting her lieutenants in place before national elections due within the next five months, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

S.B. Chavan became defence minister, replacing Ramaswami Venkataraman who resigned Wednesday.

P.C. Sethi, who was shifted from the Home Ministry to the Planning Ministry on July 19, will now also hold temporary charge of the Irrigation Ministry, PTI said.

Irrigation Minister Ram Niwas will move over to External Affairs as minister of state, it said.

Industry Minister Narain Tiwari had submitted his resignation, PTI added, without naming a replacement.

The sources said the selection of Mr. Venkataraman, a south Indian, to contest the vice-president's post and the resignation Wednesday of Sripratap Misra, chief minister of the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, demonstrated Mrs. Gandhi's election strategy for the whole country.

## Soviet bloc states urge space talks

GENEVA (R) — Eight Soviet bloc countries called Thursday for the forming of a negotiating group at the 40-nation Geneva Disarmament Conference to work out an agreement to prevent an arms race in space.

In what appeared to be an extension of current exchanges between Moscow and Washington on banning anti-satellite weapons, the Communist countries tabled a draft mandate for a proposed subsidiary committee of the Geneva body.

Its task would be "to conduct negotiations on the conclusion of an agreement ... to prevent an arms race in outer space."

The committee would "take account of all relevant proposals," including the proposal concerning a treaty on the prohibition of the use of force in outer space and from space against the earth," the

draft said.

The committee would report on its work to a full session of the conference before it concludes its 1984 session at the end of this month.

The draft was submitted by Mongolia on behalf of the Communist group.

Mongolian delegation head Dugersuren Erdemileg asked the conference to take a decision on the draft as soon as possible.

He made no mention of recent moves on proposed U.S.-Soviet talks in Vienna next month on banning space weapons.

Moscow, which suggested the Vienna meeting, accuses the United States of raising insurmountable obstacles to the talks "by its declared intention to raise nuclear arms control issues."

Prevention of an arms race in space is a major item on the agenda of the Geneva conference.

The neutral and non-aligned countries also tabled a draft mandate last week for a committee to discuss the issue.

Conference chairman Ian Cromarty of Britain said the sponsors of the non-aligned draft originally wanted a decision on their proposal Thursday, but had agreed to a postponement pending further consultations on the Soviet bloc document.

Chief Soviet Delegate Viktor Issraelyan last Tuesday complained that previous attempts to begin negotiations in Geneva on banning arms in space were blocked by Western "Star Wars" plans for turning space into an arena for new military confrontation.

U.N. delegates Louis Fields warned against making the Geneva talks a "polemical battlefield".

## Nicaraguan aide allegedly involved in drug sales

WASHINGTON (R) — A Nicaraguan diplomat who defected to the United States accused Nicaraguan Defence Minister Humberto Ortega Thursday of involvement in drug trafficking.

In Miami last week, 11 individuals, including an aide to Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge, were indicted on cocaine smuggling charges.

## Defence lawyer rests De Lorean case

LOS ANGELES (R) — Car-maker John De Lorean remained a silent figure, sprawled in his revolving courtroom chair, as 59 days of evidence in his drug trial were brought to an end Thursday with the words: "The defence rests".

"We didn't feel it necessary to prolong this circus," lawyer Howard Weitzman told reporters after concluding the defence case. "I don't think John De Lorean has anything to defend himself against."

"I feel the case has gone better than we had expected. If I had thought it necessary to have Mr. De Lorean give evidence, he would have done so."

The tall, silver-haired De Lorean, who is accused of conspiring to import 220 pounds of cocaine,

estimated by the prosecution to be worth \$24 million slipped by reporters without speaking.

The appearance of Mr. De Lorean on the witness stand would have enabled the prosecution to cross-examine him, possibly continuing the trial for several more weeks.

Instead, Federal Judge Robert Takasugi, excused the jury until Monday morning. Then it will probably hear final arguments by the defence and prosecution and instructions from the judge before retiring to consider its verdict.

If found guilty of all eight counts remaining against him, Mr. De Lorean, 59, could be sentenced to 67 years in prison.

The defence has maintained that U.S. undercover agents tried

to "steamroller" Mr. De Lorean into a drug deal before his sports car factory in Belfast, Northern Ireland, was closed by the British government.

The prosecution has argued that Mr. De Lorean was seeking money from a drug deal to save his factory, which was closed by the British government.

During the trial, the prosecution repeatedly showed jurors a secretly-filmed videotape of Mr. De Lorean, minutes before his arrest, looking into a suitcase filled with cocaine and declaring with a chuckle: "It's better than gold".

The defence maintained the suitcase was placed before Mr. De Lorean at the last moment.

## 896 listed as human rights violators in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES (R) — Six human rights groups Thursday submitted to the Senate a list of 896 military officers they say were involved in the disappearance of thousands of Argentines under military rule.

The list, the first such compilation, was published a day after a military court ordered former President Jorge Rafael Videla arrested for his role in a ruthless anti-guerrilla campaign during his term in office.

Lt. Gen. Videla led a 1976 coup against the constitutional government of Maria Estela Peron and remained in power until 1981. He is being court-martialled under a decree issued by elected President Raul Alfonsin.

Mr. Alfonsin was sworn in last December after nearly eight years of military rule and immediately ordered trials for those who engineered the "dirty war" anti-guerrilla campaign.

A spokeswoman for the human rights groups said the list was being published to prevent any of the officers in it from being cleared for promotion in a forthcoming review by the Senate.

About 250 officers are already facing possible charges of human rights violations and corruption. The flurry of trials of military men, coupled with severe budget cuts, has caused considerable irritation within the armed forces, according to military sources.

Human rights groups also criticise the government, saying little progress is being made in punishing those involved in the estimated 8,000 to 11,000 disappearances.

The list submitted to the Senate Thursday contained separate sections for army, navy and air force personnel and an appendix listing 271 clandestine detention centres used in the campaign.

The spokeswoman said the list would also be submitted to a national committee on missing people set up by Mr. Alfonsin and given a September deadline to present its report.

The top ranks of the armed forces, traditionally a strong political presence in Argentina's history, were thoroughly purged when Mr. Alfonsin took office, with scores of senior officers being sent into retirement.

clear it rejected Mr. Honecker's arguments for his detente policy with Bonn.

"We regard this as a very serious attack on Honecker which must indicate major tensions between East Berlin and Moscow," an analyst at a Western embassy said.

"This new attack shows that the Soviets consider Honecker is still defying their wishes and is probably an attempt to increase pressure on him to call off his planned visit to West Germany next month," one West European diplomat said.

Embassy analysts said it was unclear what Moscow could do next if Mr. Honecker refused to heed Soviet concerns, but predicted a continuing media barrage against East-West German links if he stuck to his plans to go to the West.

## Honecker stands by W. German trip despite Soviet pressure

EAST BERLIN (R) — East German Leader Erich Honecker appears to be standing firmly by his intention to visit West Germany despite a renewed Soviet attack on the recent credit deal with Bonn, diplomats here said Thursday.

The diplomats said Mr. Honecker had indicated no change in his stated position that the visit would go ahead, provided there was no unexpected crisis in bilateral relations.

However, they cautioned that recent Soviet criticism of growing links with Bonn was clearly causing uncertainty in the East German capital. The slightest setback could serve as a reason to postpone the trip, planned for next month. It will be the first visit by an East German leader to West Germany.

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda Thursday

made its second attack in a week on West Germany, accusing it of trying to undermine East German sovereignty through its economic ties. Bonn granted East Berlin a \$330-million loan last week in return for relaxing travel restrictions.

It also made clear that the criticism was aimed at East Berlin by pointedly reminding Mr. Honecker of his recent comment in an interview that Communist East Germany and Capitalist West Germany could be as easily combined as fire and water.

East German newspaper Neues Deutschland Wednesday supported Mr. Honecker's policy of nurturing ties with the West while relations between Washington and Moscow remain cool.

"The situation is complicated ... for this very reason, we cannot pass up any opportunity ... to turn around this dangerous dev-

elopment and return to the path of detente," it said.

The key question in relations between East and West Germany was preserving peace and that "both sides are independent in their internal and external affairs", it said.

On Wednesday, East Germany eased travel restrictions for East German pensioners going to the West and slightly relaxed regulations for West Germans travelling East.

The concessions constituted no change in overall emigration policy, but diplomats believe Moscow was angered that they were announced in West Germany as a direct response to the loan. East Germany has still not formally announced the moves.

The Soviet Communist Party daily Pravda Thursday stepped up its criticism of the dev-

elopment of closer links between the two German states and hit out at a credit agreement between them last week.

Western diplomats said the article was intended as a new warning to Mr. Honecker of Kremlin displeasure over his policy. It included implicit personal criticism of the Communist Party chief for the first time.

Pravda said Bonn was trying to justify closer links with East Berlin by claiming what it calls a special mission of both German states to "limit the damage" done by the new round of the arms race in Europe.

It was in fact Mr. Honecker who said they had a duty to limit the damage caused by new missile deployments.

Diplomats said that even though Moscow attributed the phrase to West Germany, it was making

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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### WATCH THOSE SPOTS

East-West vulnerable. North deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ K J 5  
♦ A K 5  
♦ Q 8  
♦ K 9 8 6

**WEST**  
♦ A 4 3 2 ♦ Q 9 6  
♦ Q 2 ♦ K 10 7 4  
♦ J 5 4 ♦ K 10 6 2  
♦ A 7 4 3 ♦ 10 5 2

**EAST**  
♦ 10 8 7  
♦ J 9 8 6 3  
♦ A 9 7 3  
♦ J

The bidding:  
North East South West  
1 NT Pass 2 ♣ Pass  
3 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass  
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠.

We all know that it is aces and kings that win the tricks. But don't overlook those deuces and treys. You never know when one of them could prove crucial to success.

Note North's raise to three hearts. Since it showed a maximum no trump opening bid and excellent trump support, and South was more than justified in going on to game.

While we do not normally recommend the underlead of an ace against a suit contract, we heartily endorse West's choice here. The bidding marked North for spade values, and if declarer lacks the queen he will almost surely misguess. Unfortunately, when declarer

played low East made the technically correct, though impractical, play of the nine. East should have realized that, if declarer does indeed have the ace of spades, the defenders will get no trick in

the suit because dummy's clubs will be a source of discards.

Declarer won the ten of spades and led the jack of clubs. West grabbed the ace and recovered lost ground by again underleading the ace of spades. This time East won the queen and he returned the suit, completing the defensive book when West took the ace of spades. West exited with a diamond to the queen, king and ace.

Now declarer made a play which he was soon to regret — he led the three of trumps to the king, and then continued with the ace. Life improved fleetingly when the queen dropped. Declarer now started to run clubs for diamond discards. Before declarer could get his third sluff, East ruffed and declarer overruffed. Had declarer been able to cross back to the board, he would have been able to get rid of his last diamond loser on dummy's fifth club. That would have been achieved had declarer retained his lowly three of hearts. Since all the trumps had been extracted, he could have crossed back to the table by leading the tray to the five.

